

Thirst for funds keeps the parents dipping into their pockets

By DAVID TYTLER
EDUCATION EDITOR

CHILDREN will return to school for the start of the summer term to find the timetable may include fund-raising barbecues, sponsored swims, walks, runs and spelling tests. The children may enjoy it but for their parents it means having to put their hands in their pockets to provide what many see as the essentials to support the national curriculum, such as computers and extra books.

Nobody knows for certain how much parents contrib-

ute but the best estimates are that their combined efforts produce up to £80 million a year. The schools who lose out tend to be the ones that are most in need of the extra cash: poor parents cannot find the funds generated by the better-off middle classes.

Schools need the money to provide essential equipment to teach the national curriculum, particularly in technology, where a 200-pupil primary school with eight classes would need to spend about £10,000 to provide six computer terminals. For most schools a computer

system can only be installed through the generosity of parents. With many schools dependent on parental charity, Anne Mountfield, of the Directory of Social Change, questions whether this is the right way to finance state education.

She said: "It is unrealistic to expect teachers to make fundraising a regular part of their already excessive workload. It is unfair to schools in poorer areas to encourage parents and governors to fundraise for essentials such as text books, basic classroom equipment and maintenance."

Schools in poor areas are reluctant to reveal how much their parents raise. The head of one South London primary school said that she had been told by her local education authority that she could not discuss the amount of money raised by parents because it led to "stereotyping". She said: "The parents here raise about £500 a year and do a magnificent job and it is ridiculous to deny it. I refuse to use the money for essentials; that is up to the local authority."

Her school is a typical inner London school: built 100 years ago, there are 273

pupils with 10 full-time and four part-time teachers. The £507.35 raised by parents last year was spent on books, outings, plants to decorate the building and school clubs. In previous years, parents have helped to buy two climbing frames.

Nearby is a slightly larger primary school with 390 pupils, 14 full-time and four part-time teachers. Last year parents raised about £2,000, which the school spent on climbing frames, soft lavatory paper, calculators and school trips.

These two primary schools fare very much better than a

neighbouring borough's girls' comprehensive school with 1,150 pupils. The school will receive £1,992,838 from the state, an estimated £90,000 to be spent on books, equipment and support staff. No money has been raised from parents; 85 per cent do not have English as their first language; of five parent governors, three cannot read or write fluently in any language.

Typical of the schools that benefit from parental generosity is Highfield School, a co-educational comprehensive in Letchworth, Hertfordshire,

with 780 pupils and a full-time staff of 52. The School Association raises about £5,000 a year, of which £1,209 was spent on improving computer equipment last year.

The government sets great store by the amount of support given to schools by industry, but many inner city schools receive very little. For many of them there is no local industry and gifts from charitable trusts are becoming less frequent.

James Hammond, of the Confederation of National Parent Teacher Associations, said that parents were being

relied on to provide money to "prop up the state system with children from less well-off parents suffering as a result. 'We are concerned about schools where parents are unable to raise the funds,' he said.

The education department said: "The government welcomes parental contribution but they do need to be seen in context of the overall spending of £17 billion every year."

State Schools: A suitable charity? (Directory of Social Change, Radius Works, 11 Lane, London NW3 4 99.95)

Unhealthy classrooms attacked by teachers

By JOHN O'LEARY, HIGHER EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

SOME children are being taught in conditions that are dangerous or unhealthy, according to a survey conducted by the National Association of Schoolmasters and Union of Women Teachers.

The report for the association's annual conference in Bournemouth says that many other pupils have lessons in buildings that are dirty, have multiple defects, lack proper facilities or are chronically overcrowded. "It is hardly surprising that so many of our schools are regularly vandalised and attacked by their own pupils. It is clear from our survey and the quantity of other information available that a massive building and repair programme for our schools needs to be undertaken as a matter of urgency," the report says.

The survey was produced through questionnaires sent to all schools. Only 554 were returned but the association says the results still expose conditions that ought not to exist. The condition of buildings ranged from satisfactory to "frankly abysmal".

One school in Manchester was pervaded by smells from the toilets because of inadequate drains discovered to be defective two years ago. Another, in Barnsley, had lost 2.5 hours of teaching time a week as classrooms were evacuated for dining facilities.

Susan Rogers, the association's new president, said in her opening address that schools were having to seek their own funds for educational basics and held out the prospect of "education by begging bowl" as parents were expected to find an increasing proportion of school budgets. Instead of raising money for welcome extras, schools were forming charitable trusts to provide the basics.

In more than 400 education authorities capitulation allowances for schools amounted to less than a Mars bar a day for each child, she said. Schools in poorer areas could not raise enough money to offer facilities comparable to those in a wealthier environment.

Mrs Rogers said: "It has always been accepted that parents may wish to involve themselves in and support their children's education. We have welcomed whatever icing on the cake they could provide. What is happening now is quite different. Parents concerned and horrified by the school's deprivation are raising funds for essentials. This is not the icing, but the cake itself."

Schools faced privatisation by stealth, she said. At least half the country's schools were financial losers under the government's reforms. "The pres-

sure on parents is overwhelming, the expectation is that what should be provided are the essentials of the educational experience."

Criticising the level of public spending on education, Mrs Rogers said that in 1974, 6.5 per cent of gross domestic product went on education, compared with an expected 4.2 per cent next year. There was no consideration given to the fact that pupil numbers had reached their nadir and would soon start to rise.

Nigel de Gruchy, the association's general secretary, condemned threats by the National Union of Teachers to boycott tests under the national curriculum as the road to ruin and destruction. At a private session of the conference he warned delegates that they would be left unprotected if they followed the lead of the NUT. He said a boycott would lead to disciplinary action in schools and legal action by local authorities.

Militant branches have tabled a motion to be debated on Thursday, calling for a boycott. At a press conference earlier, however, Mr de Gruchy said he was confident that the move would be defeated.

Mr de Gruchy said the NUT approach was the antithesis of sensible trade unionism. It left individuals to take action with protection from their union only after a ballot, which might well be declared illegal. Mr de Gruchy said members of his association would not support NUT staff sacked for such action, although they would follow trade union convention in refusing to do their work.

Ronald Butt, page 10



Lesson in finances: Gordon Green, the NUT treasurer, addressing conference yesterday



Opting out: Roger Sheffield, head of Langley Park School for Boys, who says that parents clearly see the advantage of grant-maintained status

NUT leader appeals to moderate members

By OUR EDUCATION EDITOR

AS THE moderate leadership of the National Union of Teachers woke yesterday to the headlines of strikes and boycotts and the condemnation of the government, the Labour Party and the other teacher organizations, they must have felt the frustration that arrives every Easter.

The union's annual conference rings to the cries of extreme left-wingers seeking industrial action to support practically every proposal. Sometimes they succeed, as in the call to support teachers who boycott the legally required testing of seven-year-olds due to start in a fortnight. These political extremists are

not representatives of the union's 176,000 members working in 20,000 primary and 4,000 secondary schools in England and Wales.

The testing boycott is likely to effect only a few schools, possibly in inner London and some other cities. To avoid more extreme demands the executives themselves proposed that members should be balloted on whether they are prepared to take industrial strikes to support the restoration of teachers' negotiating rights, a 40 per cent pay rise over two years, a maximum primary school class of 30, and the immediate introduction of four free periods a week for primary teachers which would require an extra 20,000 teachers.

Widespread disruption is unlikely but the threat is enough to dismay parents and anger teachers many of whom have already left the union for quieter organizations. Doug McAvoy, in his second year as general secretary, knows that if he does not stop the rot, the union, founded 120 years ago, will face further decline. It can only be a matter of time before it loses its tag as the country's largest teachers' union.

Falling membership has put the union into considerable financial difficulty and in secret session yesterday the conference discussed proposals to transfer £1.5 million from the union's sustenance fund used to support industrial action to pay for salaries and training costs. The extreme left sees this as a further weakening of the union's ability to pay for long-term action and accuse the union executive of mismanagement.

Mr McAvoy and a majority of the executive know that it is the industrial action of the early Eighties that has led to their present difficulties. In 1970 the union represented 218,742 teachers, 65 per cent of the workforce. The figure rose to 258,107 in 1978, although the proportion fell to 52 per cent of all teachers. Now with 176,417 members, the NUT speaks for only 40 per cent of teachers.

The two main beneficiaries of the union's difficulties have been the Assistant Masters and Mistresses Association, which now has 130,000 members, and the non-striking Professional Association of Teachers, which has 39,000 members. A proposed merger of the two would make them almost as big as the NUT.

Jack Straw, Labour's education spokesman, has kept in regular touch with events in Scarborough. His outright condemnation of the strike and boycott call was no off-the-cuff response. Mr McAvoy knows that the union has to speak to the ordinary teacher over the heads of the activists. He is seeking to restore its reputation as a professional organization and to bring it more into line with Labour party policy. When he speaks to the closing session today he is likely to repeat his warnings that the union can do nothing without the support of its members, many of whom have little in common with the extremists.

Tory heartlands form the vanguard in schools revolution

By WILLIAM CASH

ONE of the surprising features of the schools revolution is the degree to which parents in the Tory heartlands, rather than those in militant Labour council areas, have embraced the cause. The Conservative education authority in Bromley, Kent, for instance, has a third of its secondary schools preparing to opt out of local authority control.

More schools may follow as Kenneth Clarke, the education secretary, increases the pressure for most secondary schools in England to become grant-maintained, receiving all their money from central government. Bromley faces becoming the first authority to lose most of its secondary schools, a prediction that leaves Joan Bryant, chairman of the council's education committee, feeling so betrayed that she is to stand down.

She believes that opting out will undo ten years of good work by replacing excellent schools with a two-tier system that benefits only the articulate and confident middle class. "We have a first-class system in Bromley. I thought the grant-maintained option was meant for schools in loony-left inner-city boroughs — not to destroy a highly efficient educational Tory borough such as Bromley," she said.

Out of 17 secondary schools in the borough, six have chosen to opt out and others are likely to follow. The lead was taken by Bullers Wood School for Girls, Chislehurst, which becomes grant-maintained this term. Ray Page,

chairman of the governors and a former deputy director of education in Bromley, said that he believed Bromley would be the first borough in the country to have all secondary schools opt out. Professor Page added that head teachers and governors would begin to see the benefits that opting out would give.

In addition to once-only payments to help schools to become grant-maintained, they also receive an extra 16 per cent to cover services previously supplied by the local authority. The sum could be £300,000 a year for a large secondary school.

Professor Page said, however, that it was the freedom to manage their own affairs and maintain the traditions of their schools that was the main driving force. There was a concern that Bromley wanted to cut back on the number of single-sex schools. "Parents want them and heads want to run them," he said.

Roger Sheffield, headmaster of the 1,000-strong Langley Park School for Boys, in Beckenham, hopes that his school will opt out in September. "Most parents are highly aware and can perceive the advantage clearly. They place a high value on education and quite rightly are looking for any possible advantage for their sons," he said.

Opting out will give Mr Sheffield about an extra £400,000 a year, which he says will help to attract and keep high quality teachers and most double the allowances of many school departments.

Two are held after killing of man's fall at shop

Two more men were arrested yesterday by detectives investigating the loyalist murders of young Catholics at a shop in Craigavon.

The arrests brought the number of people interviewed at the RUC rogation centre at Gough racks, Armagh city.

RUC chiefs have pled the killers of Duffy, aged 19, and heri Katrina Rennie, aged 16, were shot last Thursday Brian Frizzell, aged 20, a plumber, who tried to st gunmen. In a statement the Protestant Action Force, a cover name of the Volunteer Force, said had carried out the killi revenge for a gun attack widow of an RUC se murdered by the IRA.

At least two of the six held came from Lisbur Antrim, where police be part of a loyalist killer sq based. Others are thou be from Lurgan, Co Ar near where the three we dead at the mobile sh Craigavon's Drumbea Meanwhile, Dr J McHaffy, the Church of land Bishop of Derr Raphoe, has called on parliaments to end violence, saying that the est chance of peace cam the initiative by Peter B the Northern Ireland ary, to secure all-party

CND protest is launched

Campaign for Nuclear armament protesters marched through Barrow-in-Furness, yesterday, as they tested outside the VSEI where Trident nuclear marines are built.

The 800 marchers toned down their demo out of respect for 5,000 whose jobs are to be reduced of the work Chris Sinton, local sec CND, said: "We were all to change into very i carnival clothes to s turning our backs on T but decided against this.

Marchers assembled side before moving to wh submarines are launche holding a two-minute s

BA tickets

About 50 sales cler British Airways Belfast yesterday began res 25,000 return flights on national routes for the prize winners in a wirl prize draw. The v biggest free travel prou BA selected its Belfast for the three-day task b it was a "compact and efficient unit", said Burnside, BA's public relations director.

Pier tragedy

A search has been call for Malcolm Grant, as who disappeared after ing into the sea from a Seaton Carew, Clevea rescue his dog yesterd Grant, of Stockton-or could not swim and arthritis. He was walkin his wife and managed t the dog to her.

ITV film sco

The Oscar-winning I with Wolves film is o several box office succes which ITV has won the sive British terrestrial s ing rights in a multi-p pound deal, it was au yesterday. The film bought by ITV be opened in the United S

Notes: The Times overseas Australia \$2.30; Belgium 2.50; Canada 2.75; Denmark 2.50; France 2.75; Germany 2.50; Greece 2.50; Hong Kong 2.50; India 2.50; Italy 2.50; Japan 2.50; Korea 2.50; Malaysia 2.50; Mexico 2.50; New Zealand 2.50; Norway 2.50; Portugal 2.50; Singapore 2.50; South Africa 2.50; Spain 2.50; Sweden 2.50; Switzerland 2.50; Taiwan 2.50; Thailand 2.50; The Netherlands 2.50; United States 2.50; West Germany 2.50; Yugoslavia 2.50.

UDR celebrates amid criticism

By EDWARD GORMAN, IRISH AFFAIRS CORRESPONDENT

THE locally recruited and overwhelmingly Protestant Ulster Defence Regiment yesterday celebrated its 21st anniversary amid further criticism of its role in Northern Ireland.

Four battalions of the 6,300-strong regiment, which is unique in the army because it is the only one to have been deployed solely on active operational service since its formation in 1970, are to receive their colours from the Queen later this year.

Brigadier Angus Ramsay, the UDR commander, said the regiment was a vital and integral part of the security force effort and he paid tribute to the estimated 40,000 men and women who had served in it since its inception. He said there would always be a warm

and admiring welcome for Roman Catholic recruits to the regiment, which is 96 per cent Protestant. The anniversary was also an occasion for further criticism of the UDR, which has lost 190 serving, and 45 former members killed over the years, but remains a thorn in the side of Anglo-Irish relations and a significant barrier to improving confidence in the security forces in nationalist and republican areas.

Last week in his first major statement on the role of the security forces since becoming Roman Catholic Prime Minister of Ireland, Dr Cahal Daly, Archbishop of Armagh, called for the UDR to be withdrawn from patrolling nationalist areas where allegations of harassment by soldiers of

Catholics and collusion by the regiment with loyalist paramilitaries are a constant feature of the troubles.

Gerry Adams, president of Sinn Féin, yesterday called the UDR "a loyalist paramilitary force" which was hated and despised by nationalists and should be disbanded.

The UDR was created after the disbandment of the B Specials in the wake of rioting in Northern Ireland in 1969. Initially it attracted up to 18 per cent Catholic membership, but by 1978 in the wake of internment, IRA intimidation and a perception among nationalists that the regiment was simply a new version of the Specials, that had fallen to 3-4 per cent, where it remains today. The UDR patrols over 85 per cent of Northern

Ireland, leaving the regular army responsible for west Belfast, parts of Londonderry, and east Fermanagh and South Armagh. At least 16 convictions for murder (not all terrorist related), seven for manslaughter and occasional convictions of serving members for offences linked with loyalist paramilitaries, have created an image problem for the regiment.

Two more men were arrested yesterday by detectives investigating the loyalist paramilitary murders of two teenagers Roman Catholic girls and a man in his late twenties at a mobile shop in Craigavon last Thursday. It brought to six the number being questioned at the RUC centre at Gough barracks, Armagh city.

Job scheme's last chance

By PHILIP BASSETT
INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

LAST-CHANCE proposals aimed at saving a new temporary work scheme for the long-term unemployed are to be submitted to ministers today.

Deep divisions in Whitehall on a new temporary work scheme prevented it being announced in last month's Budget. Michael Howard, the employment secretary, says now he has "no plans to present for a temporary work scheme".

The scheme is something like the Community Programme scheme, ended by the government in 1983, which offered socially-useful community work in return for pay at the rate for the job. Proponents believe that the rise in long-term unemploy-

ment, now increasing for the first time for five years, may sooner or later force such a programme on the government. But they recognise that the scheme is not to be deferred until at least much later this year, ministers must consider last-ditch proposals to beat the Whitehall breaches over the plan.

The Treasury would not agree to fund the £300 million scheme after it became clear there were deep divisions between the government's private-sector led Training and Enterprise Councils (Tecs) and the employment department's employment service over which of them should run it, and another split over whether the scheme should include a training element.

Some Treasury officials are also believed to be unhappy with what they see as the

employment department's lack of promotion of the extra £120 million recently made over as extra funding for the Employment Training scheme for the long-term unemployed. The money partly restored cuts of about a third last autumn in the government's training budgets.

But Full Employment UK, the independent policy consultancy which backed the idea of a new temporary work programme, is today putting to Mr Howard new proposals for a patched-up version of the differences.

Under the scheme suggested by Peter Ashby, a FE UK principal consultant, Teccs would have the principal responsibility to provide for people out of work for up to a year, and the Employment Service for people unemployed for longer than that.

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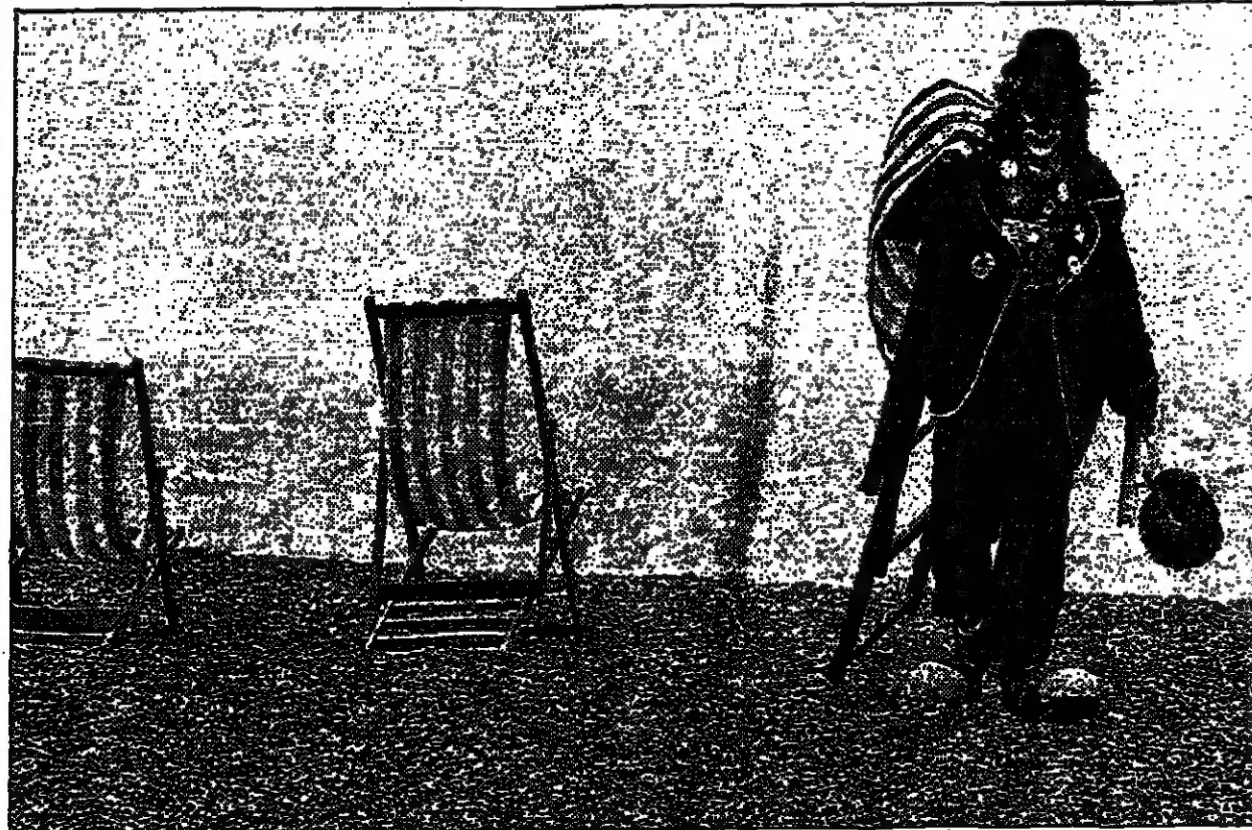
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Making tracks: the end of a dull bank holiday as participants in the London Harness Horse Parade head for home yesterday and a clowns' festival comes to a close at Brighton

Policeman's killer is found hanging in his prison cell

By LIN JENKINS

MARK Gaynor, the man jailed last week for the shot-gun murder of a policeman in an ambush that he set up after being jilted by a girl friend, was last night in a critical condition in hospital after being found hanging in his prison cell.

The incident comes amid government concern about the number of prisoners who commit suicide and the adequacy of jail procedures for identifying those likely to try to take their own lives.

Gaynor, aged 21, had, while awaiting trial, cut himself with a razor and threatened to put a noose round his neck, and had cut his throat in the cell under the dock during the trial, but was not seriously hurt. At the trial, his mental health was a contested issue.

Angela Rumbold, the prisons minister, last week voiced concern at the level of suicide among inmates, and announced a review of reception procedures to improve identification of incoming prisoners with suicidal tendencies.

Mr Justice Tucker, imposing life imprisonment on Gaynor with a recommendation that he serve at least 25 years, described him as "a thoroughly dangerous young man" guilty of "a most wicked, callous and cowardly act". Gaynor had been found guilty of murdering PC Laurence Brown, whom he shot in August, last year, having lured police into an ambush at Hackney, east London, after his girl friend had jilted him.

The Central Criminal Court was told that Gaynor dug up two sawn-off shotguns he had stolen, and made a false 999 call to draw police. Gaynor had grinned before firing at Mr Brown, the court was told.

After his arrest, he had said to police: "Why don't you hang me for this or electrocute me?"

The case was the second time that Gaynor had faced a murder charge. The first charge was dropped by the Crown Prosecution Service and he was instead sentenced to four years' youth custody for mugging, when aged 17. He was released nine months before killing Mr Brown.

At the Central Criminal Court, Gaynor was described as violent at school, a frequent truant and a boy whose father had played no part in his upbringing. Kim Fraser, a psychiatrist for the defence, said that Gaynor had sexual and relationship problems, and was suffering from mental illness at the time of the offence.

Michael Brown, a psychiatrist for the prosecution, said he was "convinced this is not a case of psychosis".

A Home Office spokesman confirmed that a prisoner had been found hanging at Wormwood Scrubs prison, in west London, yesterday. Hammer-smith hospital, west London, said that Gaynor was in intensive care in a "critical, but stable condition".

More than 150 prisoners have killed themselves in jails in the past three years. At a conference last week, Mrs Rumbold said: "The stream of reports I receive on these cases has, frankly, horrified me."

Prison officers at Britain's biggest top-security jail yesterday began industrial action with a warning that it was facing a staffing crisis that could lead to a Strangeways-style riot.

Warders at Wakefield prison, West Yorkshire, started action yesterday as the deadline passed for the provision of 11 extra full-time warders by the government's prison department. Bill Coleman, branch secretary of the Prison Officers' Association, yesterday said: "The prison department is playing Russian roulette with the biggest top-security jail in Europe. I hope it doesn't blow, because it will make Strangeways look like a tea party."

The association's 445 officers at the 700-inmate jail are to refuse to work more than the 42 hours in their contract or to respond to "limited alerts" from management when there are staff shortages.

Chemical signal may attract sperm to egg

By NIGEL HAWKES, SCIENCE EDITOR

HUMAN ova may have the ability to attract sperm by sending out a chemical homing signal, according to a study that may lead to new approaches to infertility and contraception.

The source of the signal appears to be in the follicular fluid that surrounds the ovum (egg), though the precise substance has yet to be identified. David Garbers, of the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Centre in Dallas, one of the authors of a study published in the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, says that if the

attractant can be found and purified, it might lead to treatment in some cases of infertility. A new type of contraceptive might also be developed if a way could be found to block the attractant's effect, he says.

The follicular fluid normally surrounds the ovum and is released with it at the time of ovulation. The researchers took follicular fluid from 40 women who were having ova removed for test-tube fertilisation and sperm from two fertile men.

The sperm was placed in thimble-sized containers,

covered by a filter, and then either the follicular fluid or a control chemical was put on top of the filter. After 15 minutes the researchers removed the material above the filter and investigated how much sperm had swum into it.

In more than 100 tests, they found that the follicular fluid consistently accumulated more sperm than the control chemical, a buffer medium.

The fluid that proved the most powerful attractant came from ova that were later successfully fertilised in a test tube.

Less attractive fluids were generally found to be associated with ova that could not be fertilised.

Although the researchers found that follicular fluid consistently attracted sperm, the amount of attraction could vary from follicle to follicle within the same woman, and not all sperm responded equally. This suggests that the signal is designed to attract only the fittest sperm, they conclude.

Professor Garbers said yesterday that he believes the fluid is probably helpful but not essential for fertilisation. The close link between the fluids that proved most attractive and the eggs that proved easiest to fertilise suggests that "maybe there's more to it than that", he said.

Norbert Chicher, president of the Centre for Human Reproduction in Chicago, said yesterday: "This is very early and obviously requires a lot of additional work but as a first step I think it's quite attractive."

The next stage would be to identify and purify the attracting substance or substances. Given the small quantities of human ova available for analysis that would be very difficult, Professor Garbers said.

Home owners' rescue scheme is launched

By CHRISTOPHER WARMAN
PROPERTY CORRESPONDENT

A HOUSING rescue package has been launched by Rochdale metropolitan borough council in an attempt to ease the plight of home owners falling into mortgage arrears and avoid repossession. The scheme, privately funded through the West Pennine housing association, has been devised by councils and housing associations in the absence of government financial help.

The package includes a pilot "mortgage to rent" scheme in which the association uses money from a bank or building society to buy the home. David Williams, a Rochdale councillor who helped to devise it, said the resident then paid off the mortgage and other debts and bought back a share of the house with the remaining money. Rent is then paid to the housing association for the rest of the house.

"In some cases this will help reduce monthly payments by more than £100, but the rental would still be high," Mr Williams said. The scheme



Soley: up to the government to find a solution

would significantly help only those whose house is worth at least 15 per cent more than the level of debt and who have other debts on top of mortgage arrears.

Clive Soley, Labour's housing spokesman, said: "It should not be up to local authorities to come up with such schemes. Many of the residents who find themselves in this sort of problem are there because of the failure of government policies."

of the day are discussed, devoted an entire 50-minute Easter Monday programme to the wheelie-bin question. It was only partly a light-hearted April Fool's Day diversion. Callers offered a wide range of opinions. One listener described the wheelie-bin as a "monster sitting on the back", another as "a sort of family pet".

The wheelie-bin started life in the 1930s in France, spread throughout Europe and can now be seen as far afield as Oslo, Hong Kong or Singapore. In Northern Ireland a hotline, set up to deal with complaints and worries about the wheelie-bin, receives up to 120 calls a day.

The bin has been the subject of poetry and songwriting. A Belfast pop group called "No Hot Ashes", in the bin's honour, recorded a song entitled "Don't drag my name around". A spokesman for Ian Paisley's Democratic Unionist party said the march of the wheelie-bin across the province was part of a secret unionist conspiracy against nationalists to finally silence Roman Catholic housewives who traditionally bang metal bin lids on the anniversary of internment in August.

Critics say the bins are expensive and unsightly, especially when left out for collection. They are difficult to clean and difficult to drag or push; they fall over when it is windy, and are useless with hot ashes.

The pro-wheelie-bin faction say the bins save money, time and mess; reduce absenteeism because refuse collection staff suffer fewer back injuries and hold more than the old aluminium bins.

A monster or a family pet? Edward Gorman on the wheelie-bin controversy

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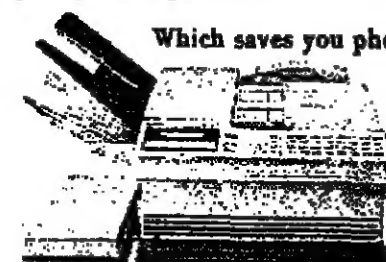
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Arts Council says Renton has accepted funds plan

By SIMON TAIT, ARTS CORRESPONDENT

TIM Renton, the arts minister, has accepted the Arts Council's recommendations on the delegation of funds to regional arts boards, the council is expected to announce today. Local authorities will be relieved that an 18-month saga over the delegation policy is nearing an end.

Television dominates home life

By ALICE THOMSON

THE British conduct much of their lives with one eye on the television, according to an NOP survey published today. Fifty-nine per cent eat with the television on, a third read, a quarter sleep or nap, a fifth do housework and two million admit to making love in front of a switched-on set, although women are half as likely to admit this as men.

Over 98 per cent of people have access to a television set, and according to the survey, television forms a vital part of their leisure time, whether planned or unplanned. The average Briton spends 17 hours a week watching television, and 7 per cent of people watch it for more than 11 hours a day. It is the only leisure activity of five million people, with women and pensioners spending most time in front of the box.

Many Britons prefer the company of pets to that of their family and friends when watching favourite programmes. More than 6.5 million pets watch television with their owners, while five million people watch television with their friends.

After money and housework, choice of programme is the most common cause of family argument. Nearly nine million people admit to arguing about programme selection.

More than four million are watching more television this year to take their mind off the recession. One in four mothers uses television to occupy the children and 23 per cent of people use it just to fill in time.

Fifty per cent of people say they could not live without a television set. Most people think that "people rely on television too much", although few admit to being in that category themselves.

Television viewing dominates most people's leisure time, with 59 per cent "making an effort to watch" *Coronation Street* or *East-Enders* each week.

Other cultural pursuits are largely neglected, with only 17 per cent of the population spending more than three hours a week reading and only 6 per cent going to the theatre. Forty-three per cent of people claim not to participate in any exercise, but 47 per cent of people spend up to three hours a week "looking around the shops". Gardening is popular, with 32 per cent spending up to three hours on it, and a third of the population say they do nothing at all for at least three hours a week.

from Mr Renton. It is that plan, a revision of its original scheme, that the council will claim today has been accepted by the minister.

Mr Renton's dossier for change includes a new list of clients that will be devolved from direct Arts Council funding to funding by the ten new arts boards. He told the Arts Council to tear up an earlier list. He also altered the proposed structure of the arts boards, which will replace the 12 regional arts associations by April 1993 and which will be jointly funded by the Arts Council and local authorities.

The allocation of seats on the boards, however, is still causing some anger among local authorities. A year ago Richard Luce, then arts minister, said the boards could be 24-strong, with up to half the members coming from local authorities. His successor, David Mellor, reduced the size to 12, with only a third coming from local authorities. Mr Renton has eased the limit on the boards' overall size but has still limited local council membership to a third.

Leicestershire county council is withholding £10,000 of its £54,000 contribution to East Midlands Arts, (EMA), and will cut more next year, because it has been offered only one seat. Leicester city council's £8,000 share also earns it a seat.

Jim Roberts, a Labour county councillor who chaired Leicestershire's working party on ways of disbursing and increasing the county's £13.5 million annual arts budget, said: "Leicestershire is a huge county. When all three parties could each have a place on EMA there was no controversy over the arts budget. Now there will be."

The minister did not understand the local situation. "He assumes that the money we are withholding will be lost to the arts, but it won't: it will go to our own new arts projects fund, which needs to be increased from the £60,000 it stands at now."

Mr Roberts feared that the council's previously warm relationship with the director of East Midlands Arts would become difficult. "We feel we have been betrayed by various ministers starting with Mellor. The old regional association is working perfectly well. It seems to us that if it works, don't fix it."

When Mr Mellor made his announcement, Humberside county council threatened to co-ordinate a concerted local authority withdrawal of funds from the new Yorkshire and Humberside board, but it has negotiated a better position with Mr Renton. Even so, 17 district councils in Humberside believe they should be entitled to more than the one seat they have been collectively offered.

Andrew Milne, director of Eastern Arts, the first new board to emerge, said the transition had been "compromised time and again by the stop-go nature" of the delegation of funds. The new Eastern Arts covers the largest of the ten regions stretching from Norfolk west to Hertfordshire and taking in half of the old Lincolnshire and Humberside region as well as East Anglia. All 57 local authorities in the region have pledged fealty.



Eye-catching: Tiffany Stanford, aged 21, of Birmingham, was the focus of attention yesterday after being named Miss Beautiful Eyes 1991 by the British Safety Council. She will visit firms to emphasise the need for eye protection.

The Bar draws up battle lines on new freer advocacy rights

IN THE unlikely setting of the eighth floor of the Millbank Tower, central London, work starts today on dismantling the restrictive practices that have distinguished the legal profession for the past two centuries.

Although the Courts and Legal Services Act 1990 is now on the statute book, the work of deciding to what extent solicitor-advocates, or others, should be allowed into the Bar's preserve of the higher courts falls to a committee of lawyers and lay people.

This committee, appointed by the Lord Chancellor and chaired by Lord Griffiths, the law lord, is at the centre of a complex consultative machinery which will approve rules on the exercise of the new advocacy rights. "It really is a major restructuring of the legal profession," Lord Griffiths says. "The government has passed the buck to us."

Broadly, the more restrictive the rules, the fewer solicitors who will opt to practise in the higher courts and the more limited the impact of breaking the Bar's monopoly.

Battle lines have been drawn. The Bar has published five criteria it insists must govern all advocates. These include the cab-rank rule, which obliges advocates to take any case that comes along, including any legal aid case; and the requirement that

The government's legal reforms paved the way for breaking lawyers' monopolies. Their impact depends on the next round between solicitors and barristers, led by Lord Griffiths. Frances Gibb reports

advocates should not both prepare a case and present it in court, as solicitors do now in the magistrates' courts.

Lord Griffiths will not preempt his committee's work. But he is clearly unsympathetic to needless restrictions. He does not believe, for instance, that advocates in the higher courts must be independent practitioners who are not in partnership. "It is not my view to take entrenched attitudes; it would be quite contrary to the spirit of the act," he says. "Certainly it is not my view that nobody should be given rights of audience unless they are sole practitioners."

The cab-rank rule, he accepts, is one of the hardest issues. Although the act contains a general cab-rank principle, the Bar wants a tighter version imposed on solicitor-advocates, preventing them



refusing legal aid work on grounds of cost.

"There may be a powerful argument for saying that Parliament has defined the principle, and it is not for the committee to advise any further extension," Lord Griffiths says. Instead, it would be open to an advocate who offered legal services under tighter rules to "hold himself out as offering a wider and more attractive service to the public," he argues.

The most difficult question, however, is likely to be whether lawyers in the Crown Prosecution Service, and the government legal service generally, should be granted advocacy rights in the higher courts. The Bar fiercely opposes that: all crown court work is now put out by the CPS to the self-employed Bar. Loss of crown court prosecution work would be a big blow.

Law lord with love of court drama

WHEN Lord Griffiths is not sitting as a member of the highest court in the land, he is embroiled in the controversy over whether women should be admitted to the Marylebone Cricket Club (Francis Gibb writes).

As club president, he will soon oversee a postal ballot of its 17,000 members on the question. "But I am not going to give you a hint of my own views," he says. Lawyers who know his liberal-tending views on reforms of the legal profession will hazard their own guesses.

Lord Griffiths has been a law lord since 1985 but has a host

of other duties, including chairmanship of the Security Commission and of the Thalidomide Trust. "I don't accept the criticism that judges live in ivory towers totally out of touch with society," he says. "I know people say we are all old and middle-to-upper class, but we still have broad experience of life and through our children keep in touch with reality."

Lord Griffiths's background is not out of step with the commonly-accepted image. He was at school at Charterhouse, and after war service and St John's College, Cambridge, was called to the Bar in 1949.

He was appointed a High Court judge in 1971 and a Lord of Appeal in 1980.

He has an interest in legal reform but admits to a love of the criminal law. "I miss the drama of the courtroom very much. I honestly preferred being a trial judge (to a law lord). First, the whole thing was alive, there was the excitement in that you did not know how the story was going to end. I draw the analogy that a trial judge is like a doctor with a living patient; the appeal court the pathologist, trying to find out what the patient died of, all laid out cold in front of it."

Sceptical readers prove that they are nobody's fool

By ROBYN YOUNG

THERE are some people who never believe what they read in newspapers. Yesterday the newspapers set out to prove them right.

The *Daily Mirror* asked readers to believe that a "chickpinner" produced a "chickpinner" in a Hampshire farmer was gleefully diversifying into raising crops of Cabbage Patch dolls while the *Daily Mail* reported that Stonehenge was to be resited because its heel stone was out of line with the sun on midsummer's day.

The trouble with stories like these, concocted to coincide with the advent of April, is that they tend to cast doubt on the stranger than fiction truths which are newspapers' daily staple.

The *Times*, for instance, yesterday had a front page story that a former hairdresser from Hartlepool had used chemistry learnt doing perms to develop a material able to withstand a simulated nuclear flash. So many readers were disinclined to believe it that the duty editors felt obliged to append a note in later editions reassuring readers: "This report is not an April fool."

The *Daily Telegraph* attached a similar warranty to its science reports. It was probably necessary since one was about self-fleeing sheep which have to wear hairnets to stop their wool falling off prematurely while another claimed that Greece has stretched by more than a metre during the past century, making the marathon a longer race.

Other reports which were similarly vouchsafed for covered the distribution in Scotland of seed of a fast-growing plant developed in America to speed up botany classes in schools; a threat to the international guano fertiliser industry arising from changes in ocean currents; and a scheme to add sound effects such as birdsong and babbling brooks to computer systems.

Readers were still left to wonder about the veracity of a front page claim that America in 1930 drew up plans for a war to eliminate the British Empire as a trading rival (true), an inside

page piece about the agriculture ministry funding research into using lupin flour for food (true), and a feature that next year's Academy awards will include an animal (surely not).

The *Guardian* offered a lengthy and suitably tedious profile of the prime minister's "oldest friend and newest guru", Mr David Humphrys, a man with 31 cardigans. The *Independent* produced Arthur Wynd, a smallholder from Mid-Glamorgan who planned to make the Queen take a DNA test to prove that he was the rightful heir to the throne. His mother, the paper said, had called him Wynd in the hope that people would call him "Mr Wynd, sir".

Even the *Morning Star* succumbed, with a tale about John Major and George Bush unveiling a scheme for a transatlantic job swap scheme for government ministers.

Nor was the press alone in its demerits. On BBC Radio 4 the *Today* team served up an elaborate hoax, with contributions from the former prime minister Edward Heath and pop star Phil Collins, claiming that the Radio 1 disc-jockey Simon Bates, was to join the cabinet as Minister for Pop.

Least anyone is still in doubt one must add that seven reports on page five of yesterday's *Times* were not to be taken too literally. There is no one-way traffic scheme to banish hold-ups on the M25, gardeners must wait a little longer for slow-growing grass, people trying to extract gold from cliffs will be wasting their time, the producers of *Beastie Girl* are not really insisting that the European Community should make milk bottles square, there is no liquid which will instantly melt snowdrifts on railway lines, Paul Gascoigne of Tottenham Hotspur is not to be sold to a company in which the public will be invited to take eight million shares at £1 each, and David Niven and John Lennon are not among the candidates for Poets' Corner.

Today's paper, though, can be taken on trust as usual.



Smash and grab: the wrecked club house at Liphook golf club on the Sussex-Hampshire border after thieves used a stolen bulldozer early yesterday to smash down a brick wall and wrench clear a safe, containing £2,000 in bar takings, which was bolted to the floor.

The bulldozer, stolen from a roadwork site, was then used to hoist the safe into a lorry. Another safe was wrenched from the floor but ignored by the gang. It did not contain money. Barry Morgan, club secretary, said damage would run into thousands of pounds.

Date of general election hangs on local poll result

By ROBIN OAKLEY, POLITICAL EDITOR

POLITICAL parties are gearing themselves up for an all-out effort this month in the lead-up to the contest which will determine whether there is a June general election.

On May 2 more than 30 million Britons living outside Scotland and London will have the chance to vote in the biggest test of political opinion since the last general election.

A sophisticated computer analysis of the results in local authority elections that day, working out the ramifications of votes in every ward in terms of parliamentary seats, will be presented rapidly to Chris Patten, the Conservative party chairman. He will then recommend to John Major whether he should launch a June election to win a mandate of his own or whether he should damp down election expectations at least until the autumn.

In 1983 and in 1987 Tory chairman Cecil Parkinson and Norman Tebbit were able to use the local government results to urge Mrs Thatcher to

press the Go button. This time the decision is likely to be less clear cut.

More than 12,000 council seats are at stake with all-out elections in 185 English shire districts, and a third of the council being contested in the other 111. In the 36 metropolitan authorities a third of the seats are being contested. In Welsh councils there are 33 all-out contests, with a third of the seats being contested in the other four. The Conservatives will be defending about 5,200 seats and Labour 3,075. The Liberals took 1,276 in 1987 and the now near-extinct SDP 468. In addition, independents took 2,094 and Plaid Cymru 89.

Even with no contests in Scotland and London the results will cover 475 of the 650 (651 next time) parliamentary constituencies. But all parties are being coy about their hopes. All are trying to belittle their expectations so that any apparent advance can be used to create pre-election momentum, and the results



Decision-makers: Parkinson, Tebbit and Patten will not initially be easy to read. When the same seats were contested four years ago Labour did poorly, losing 227 seats overall. The Conservatives did reasonably well, picking up an additional 75 seats. But the Liberal/SDP Alliance prospered, with 453 gains.

Other parties and independents lost 301 seats between them. The Conservatives gained control of 18 councils and lost control in 15. Labour gained seven and lost ten and the Alliance won five and lost two. The crucial figure is the share of the vote each obtained nationally. The Tories took 41 per cent, Labour 31

and the SDP/Liberal Alliance, which tends to perform better in local elections than in national elections, had 27 per cent.

The national figures in the subsequent general election, called after Norman Tebbit, Margaret Thatcher and the Conservative central office computer had digested those results, were: Conservatives 43, Labour 32 and Lib Dem Alliance 23.

When those council seats were last contested in 1987 the Tories stood at 43 per cent in the opinion polls, Labour at 30 and the SDP/Liberal Alliance at 25. Their respective poll standing now is Conser-

vatives 40, Labour 40, Liberal Democrats 16. So both main parties should be able to make advances at the expense of the Liberal Democrats, with Labour making inroads, too, into the 1987 Tory vote.

However, in last year's local elections the Liberal Democrats held on to most previous gains, despite having slumped to only 6 per cent support in national opinion polls. A recent *Sunday Times* survey showed that in February the Liberal Democrats, even before the boost to their national standing from the Ribbles Valley by-election and from Paddy Ashdown's performance during the Gulf war, had edged Labour into third place in local council by-elections. They took 30 per cent of the vote to 29.5 per cent for Labour in the February contests, with the Tories showing strongly on 39 per cent.

On that performance the Conservatives, for all their poll tax traumas, were running ahead of their showing in local government by-elections in the same month four years

ago, and should therefore expect to pick up more council seats next month. But Labour's standing nationally is considerably stronger now than four years ago and it would be a big disappointment for Walworth Road planners if they failed to make significant advances.

If the Tories lose about 100 seats in the May elections they would be running neck and neck with Labour, as the latest opinion polls suggest, and would be unlikely to risk a June election. But Tory gains of 200 seats or more would be tempting for Mr Major, suggesting that he could go to the country in June and win.

The difficulty in programming those Tory computers is the Liberal Democrat factor. The Liberal Democrats may well poll better once again in local elections than their national poll figures suggest.

If they do, then who should be considered the likely beneficiary in a parliamentary election of any votes which might detach from them to the main parties in a national election?

Highest pub toasts return to Yorkshire

By RONALD FAUX

A WIND from Slapton Moss lashing stair-roads of rain against the old walls of the Tan Hill Inn, Britain's highest public house, failed to dampen the celebrations going on inside yesterday. A wrong had been righted. A boundary had been adjusted and, at a stroke of the boundary draughtsman's pen, Tan Hill, 125 lonely acres and nine citizens were returned to Yorkshire.

"Not before time," Margaret Baines, the landlady, declared as the Makers Silver Band gave a rendition of Yorkshire tunes, the pub choir sang their version of *On Ilkley Moor*, and enormous Yorkshire puddings were served by waitresses sporting white roses. "Tan Hill hasn't known where it was since they revised the boundaries 17 years ago," Mrs Baines said. "It's a Yorkshire pub but they changed the boundary without thinking and we became part of County Durham."

Tan Hill, at 1,732ft, was returned to Yorkshire because servicing the exposed road

that links it to the outside world became too much of a headache for Durham's highways department whose vehicles had to drive through North Yorkshire to reach it.

Walter Appleton, former snow plough driver, welcomed the change. It was a grand pub, he said, that always gave a Yorkshire welcome. "In the old days, they kept the fire going all day. They had to it was that cold," he said. He had known days when he had struggled to Tan Hill with his plough and the building had disappeared beneath a snow drift. "There were days when the landlord would have to escape through a bedroom window to dig a way down to his own front door."

Mrs Baines said that in her first winter, Tan Hill was snow bound for six weeks. Tan Hill was like no other pub, she said, but people preferred somewhere out of the ordinary. Its passing trade includes hikers on the Pennine Way, which passes 100 yards from the front door.

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Special car tax may be abolished to increase sales

By KEVIN EASON, MOTORING CORRESPONDENT

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THE special car tax of 10 per cent is likely to be abolished by the government to lower the price of new cars and to revive sales affected by high interest rates and recession.

Motor industry analysts believe that the Chancellor will be able to raise enough revenue from his Budget measures to replace the £1.6 billion a year raised by the tax.

Car makers and dealers say that the tax is discriminatory and, with VAT, takes government revenue from every new car to 27.5 per cent. The Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders appealed to the Chancellor to abolish the tax this year, but it is understood that the Treasury was unwilling to act too quickly until the higher taxation on company car users, duty on fuel and extra VAT take effect.

However, Norman Lamont seems certain to act soon, particularly as the tax could be regarded within the European Community as unfair to British buyers after the opening of the single market, which will include tax harmonisation proposals. Tax on new cars in Germany is 14 per cent and in France, 22 per cent. With taxes on British cars among the highest in the EC, Mr Lamont will probably want to abolish the tax independently and before a potentially embarrassing dispute with European commissioners.

BRS Car Lease, one of Britain's biggest suppliers of company cars, estimates that

the Budget tax increases on company car users now gives Mr Lamont the financial flexibility to abolish the special car tax. Paul Bates, the firm's general manager, said that government revenue from a typical £9,000 company car before the Budget was £2,038, including the special car tax. Since the Budget, and including the new 17.5 per cent VAT rates and cash from employers' national insurance contributions on company cars, the government's income from the same car would be raised to £2,196, even excluding the special tax.

"With the government realising that future EC taxation will force the abolition of this tax, it appears to be taking measures now that will recoup lost income and allow it to drop the tax before it has to do so," Mr Bates said.

The Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders believes that the special car tax keeps prices artificially high and has told Mr Lamont that unless it is abolished, British car makers will be at a serious competitive disadvantage. So far this year sales of new cars are down by 23 per cent and manufacturers want to see encouragement to bring customers back into the showrooms.

The society said: "No other major vehicle producing country singles out cars for such a discriminatory tax and abolition is essential if the UK

industry is to operate on the level playing field in the single European market. Unless some action is taken, the tax burden on cars will be increasingly out of line with other EC countries where taxes on cars will fall as VAT rates are cut to 20 per cent or below."

Abolishing the tax would also help car makers who are likely to face criticism over their pricing policies when a Monopolies and Mergers Commission enquiry reports later this year. The commission is investigating consumer group claims that car prices are as much as a third higher in Britain than in some other EC countries. Early indications are that evidence is piling up against the manufacturers.

The Consumers' Association, which has given evidence to the enquiry, said yesterday that it had reopened its investigation into car pricing because of allegations that British-built Nissan cars cost 20 per cent more in Britain than on the Continent.



Troubled gates: John Green, a street cleaner, gazes at a sculpture chosen by the Prince of Wales which has drawn the ire of Birmingham council's planning committee. It is to consider demanding the removal of the sculpture, chosen to complement the renovation of a Georgian building in the city's Jewellery Quarter (Robin Young writes).

The sculpture, a 12ft high pair of gates made in wrought iron and glass set so that one is permanently open and the other always closed, is intended to represent the Tree of Life. The Duke of Cornwall paid £25,000 to set it up as part of the £3.5 million redevelopment of the Jewellery Quarter, a conservation area in the city centre.

Local traders and building workers have likened the sculpture to a pile of junk or the gates of a scrapyard. There may be a vengeful side to the comments, for the prince had earlier upset Birmingham with some outspoken judgments. He compared the city's new central library to an installation for burning books, and declared that the £150 million International Convention Centre, which opens today, resembled a concrete missile site.

Frank McLoughlin, chairman of the Birmingham planning committee, said yesterday: "The design for this sculpture is pretty awful. It looks like it was done off the back of a fag packet. If other councillors share my view that it does not enhance what is an important conservation area we could take enforcement action to have it removed."

Mr McLoughlin said that members of the public had suggested that the gates would be better consigned to scrap metal merchants.

European police forum proposed

By STEWART TENDLER, CRIME CORRESPONDENT

THE setting up of a European police forum to allow senior officers to meet to discuss issues such as drugs, crime or traffic will be proposed at an annual Interpol meeting in London this week.

The meeting is being held for the first time in London and the 100 officers will include delegates from the Soviet Union, Czechoslovakia and Poland, which have joined Interpol in the past six months. Of the 32 countries eligible to join, only Albania is still not a member.

The plan for a police forum is being proposed by the British delegation in a paper presented by Roger Birch, chief constable of Sussex and the head of a police initiative on better European co-operation. The paper comes in the wake of a pilot project at Interpol headquarters at Lyons last year when a seminar on dealing with disasters attracted police from all EC countries and from Scandinavia.

The plan proposes using Interpol headquarters as "neutral ground" for three or four meetings a year concentrating on EC countries, but which could include other European nations. The meetings would give different forces the chance to make personal contacts, develop common strategies and identify new international crime problems.

The forum would make it possible to discuss issues raised by the European parliament, the council of ministers and the Trevi group which covers areas such as security. Police in western Europe have also begun pondering the consequences of the lifting of the Iron Curtain. Once internal EC frontiers come down next year no one knows how the borders between east and west will operate or how they will cope with the many immigrants who might want to travel west.

Art worth £150,000 is stolen

Police in the Irish Republic were yesterday investigating the theft of a private art collection worth more than £150,000 from a country house in Co Wexford.

The thieves broke into Kerlogue House, near Wexford, while the owner was away at the weekend. They cut 14 paintings from their frames and also stole jewellery and silverware worth £50,000. Most of the pictures were by Irish artists but there were several Dutch and English works. Police said that the haul could have been smuggled into Britain from the nearby port of Rosslare.

Driver attacked

A motorist was attacked by four muggers at Plymouth after he stopped to help their accomplice, a woman who lay in the road pretending to be hurt, police said yesterday. He managed to fight off the men.

Children saved

Antonio Delduca, aged 33, caught his three young children after his wife, Annette, dropped them 30ft from a window of his burning home at Scunthorpe yesterday. Mrs Delduca, aged 31, jumped to safety.

Women allowed

The Working Men's Conservative club at Romsey in Hampshire has decided to admit women members, but they will be banned from the snooker room and bar.

Foetus found

A human foetus has been found in a wooden box buried in a field near Tormes, Devon, police said yesterday.

Search for FBI-style director

By OUR CRIME CORRESPONDENT

THE Home Office has begun the search for a top police officer to head the national criminal intelligence service due to start early next year.

The £57,000-plus post of director is offered on a contract for three to five years. The Home Office wants a chief constable or an assistant commissioner from the Metropolitan police, probably with senior CID experience and a grasp of computer systems, to head the service, which could become a British version of the FBI.

The service, which will keep computerised records of national and local intelligence, will provide British police with a central contact with Interpol. It will gather information on drug trafficking, money laundering, fraud, paedophilia, football hooligans, international crime and art thefts and will control an international network of police or Customs liaison officers in foreign capitals.

Candidates, who must apply by April 12, could include Anthony Mullett, West Mercia chief constable and chairman of the association of chief police officers' crime committee, John Burrow, Essex chief constable, and David Owen, chief constable of North Wales, president of the association of chief police officers and a former detective chief superintendent. William Taylor, an assistant commissioner, and John Evans, chief constable of Devon and Cornwall and head of the new Birmingham Six inquiry, could be among younger applicants.

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Time Zone Moisture Recharging Complex. N/D, D.	50ml	<input type="checkbox"/>	£33.00		
Skin Perfecting Creme Firming Nourisher. N/O, N/D.	50ml	<input type="checkbox"/>	£35.00		
Triple Creme Skin Rehydrator. All skin types.	50ml	<input type="checkbox"/>	£27.00		
Polished Performance Liquid Makeup. N/D, D.					
Good Beige 30ml	£17.50	<input type="checkbox"/>	Outdoor Beige 30ml	£17.50	
Demi-Matte Makeup. O, N/O.			Newport Beige 30ml	£15.50	
Lucidry. Loose Translucent Powder.					
Transparent	£18.00	<input type="checkbox"/>	Medium	£18.00	
More Than Powder. Dawn Beige	£15.00	<input type="checkbox"/>	Warm Honey	£15.00	
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Signature Automatic Pencil for Eyes.			Jet Black	£12.50	
	Greenery	£12.50	<input type="checkbox"/>	Walnut Brown	£12.50

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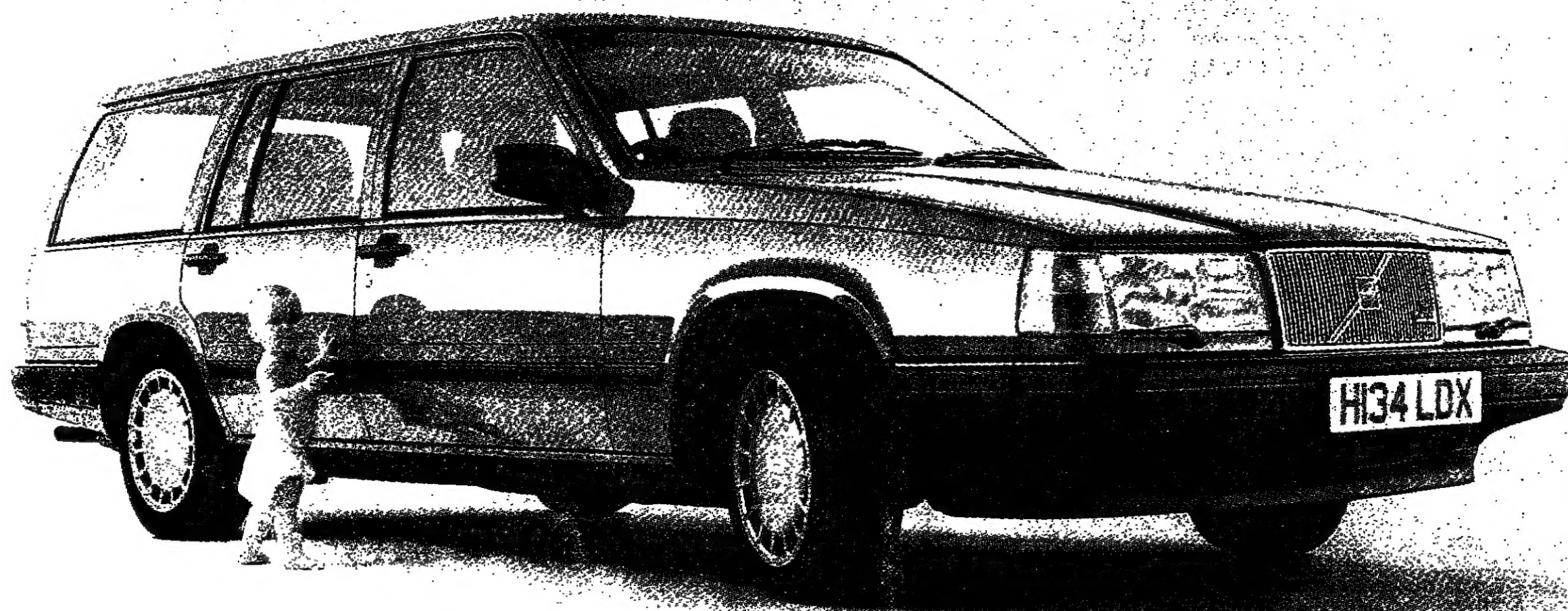
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Albania's fear of change casts shadow on first free poll

Opposition anger as communists claim victory

FROM JOHN HOLLAND IN TIRANA

IN MOST of the world it is known as April Fool's Day but in Albania it is referred to as the Day of Lies — a dangerously apt description of the opinion in some radical pro-democracy quarters which are reacting in disbelief at the size of the democratic opposition's loss to the ruling communists in Sunday's first free election since the second world war.

Albania's communists formally claimed victory yesterday as an angry pro-democracy crowd shouted "Democracy, democracy" and "Down with the communists!" outside the headquarters of the defeated main opposition party in Tirana.

The Democratic Party leaders tried to put a positive light on their overall defeat. Sali Berisha, the president of the party, told the noisy but non-violent crowd of 3,000 cheering supporters outside party headquarters that they should be patient.

"Brothers and sisters, if we have not yet achieved total victory [a boast he had made to journalists a day before] then I promise we will have one in several months."

With initial unofficial results in, the communists have taken about 156 of the new parliament's 250 seats while the main opposition Democratic Party appears to have won about 74 seats, with the rest going to smaller parties. Around six seats will be

decided in a second poll on April 14.

However, in an image setback which could haunt them, the communist president, Ramiz Alia, was defeated in his bid for re-election to the parliament by an obscure engineer from the main opposition Democratic Party.

Some Western diplomats said local authorities in the port city of Durres and the coastal town of Kavaja, where pro-democracy riots first broke out last year, were preparing for possible violence after the apparent communist victory.

In a number of larger cities the Democratic Party won solid victories, but it was not enough to overcome communist dominance in the poor rural areas, where sentimental loyalty to "Comrade Enver" — the former dictator, Enver Hoxha — is strong.

These remote mountain villages and hamlets which ring the eastern half of the country in a crescent stretching from the Yugoslav border down to the Greek frontier, appear to have scuttled any chance that Albania will move quickly to destroy the remnants of Hoxha's repressive legacy.

In individual districts the communists' top figures did poorly. President Alia lost his seat to an obscure engineer from the Democratic Party by the name of Frano Keroqi. Equally embarrassing, the



Outside chance: Albanians waiting at the gates of the Democratic party headquarters for news of how the opposition, led by Sali Berisha, right, fared in the polls

communist prime minister and foreign minister, Fatmos Nano and Muhammad Kapleni, appeared to be heading for run-off elections after failing to secure a majority of votes.

In Mr Alia's case this is not expected to make much difference, as the newly drafted constitution allows for a non-parliamentarian to be elected president. But this could lead to tremendous animosity in the pro-democracy stronghold in the west of the country, Western diplomats suggest.

Much of the anger of the radical element within the democratic movement has been directed at Hoxha's dismal economic legacy, which has made Albania Europe's

poorest country. Had it not been for the riots and demonstrations of the last six months, Mr Alia appeared all too ready to continue Hoxha's rigid system.

Despite the fact that the election was hastily organised and campaigning was far too brief for a country with little previous experience, independent election observers said fraud and manipulation were minimal considering the fact that nearly everything had to

be done by hand and transmitted on a rickety telephone.

Some Western observers shrugged off the election results as a lack of a developed and informed political culture, but it appeared true that voter loyalty to the Party of Labour owed as much to the country's conservatism and communist patronage, as well as the traditional fear of change, as it did to a genuine lack of information about the alternatives to communism.



Serb area severs link with Croatia

By OUR FOREIGN STAFF

REBEL Serbs yesterday declared that their region was leaving the republic of Croatia to join neighbouring Serbia, threatening to provoke fresh ethnic violence in the Yugoslav federation.

A council representing the Serbian minority in Croatia made the announcement after meeting near the Croatian tourist resort of Plitvice, where two people died on Sunday in gun battles between Serbs and Croats. "The Serbian autonomous region of Krajina is joining the republic of Serbia," a statement by the executive council of the region, which includes Plitvice, declared.

The council's president, Milan Babic, said all volunteer defence units in Krajina had been mobilised "to defend Serbian independence". Yugoslav army tanks and Croatian riot police patrolled roads around Plitvice yesterday while armed Serbs blocked other roads with trees and rocks. On Sunday the Yugoslav presidency ordered federal army units to try to maintain a ceasefire and federal troops in Croatia were put on high combat readiness.

French rioting spreads to Lyons

Paris — Youths set alight cars and fought running battles with riot police in a multi-racial district of Lyons in further signs of discontent felt by children of immigrant families in the desolate tower blocks around French cities (John Phillips writes). Trouble began when police tried to arrest youths of North African origin who were using stolen cars for a joy-riding "rodeo".

Michel Delebarre, the minister for towns, will this week meet community leaders from Sarraville, the Parisian suburb where rioting broke out last week after a youth was shot dead.

Minister goes

Lima — General Adolfo Alvarado, the Peruvian interior minister widely criticised for setbacks in the anti-guerrilla war and alleged human rights abuses, has resigned, the president's office said. (Reuters)

Tactical buff

Rome — Ilona "Ciccotina" Staller, the porn star turned politician, said she was leaving the Italian parliament in an effort to prevent early elections. The blonde MP was elected in 1987. (AP)

Rebel victory

Nairobi — Southern Sudanese rebels claimed the capture of Rokom, a town near Juba, the southern provincial capital. In a broadcast monitored in Kenya, the Sudan People's Liberation Army said it overran the garrison on Sunday.

Gorbachev woos the armed forces

FROM BRUCE CLARK IN MOSCOW

PRESIDENT Gorbachev, his popularity damaged by food shortages and economic problems, has moved to reassure the army and shift some of the blame for price rises on to authorities in the republics.

The Soviet leader, who according to the latest opinion poll is trusted by only one Muscovite in five, told a weekend meeting of the Communist movement in the armed forces that equipping the military and providing it with better living standards were top priorities.

In remarks reported prominently by Pravda, Mr Gorbachev promised: "We will not allow anybody to underestimate the role of the army." He added: "The condition of the armed forces... and the provision of the army and navy with modern weaponry are viewed as the highest concerns of the state."

His speech coincided with hawkish official commentaries on defence and East-West relations, underlining the hardline lobby's influence. These include a warning in Pravda that, unless problems over disarmament are solved, superpower relations could return to the level before the Malta summit of December 1989, when the Cold War was effectively pronounced over.

The prospect of working-class rage over the price rises coming into effect this morning appeared to be behind another presidential message published yesterday — a stiff note to republican governments accusing them of setting prices at levels higher than those agreed with the central authorities. As bread ran short in Moscow shops, Mr Gorbachev instructed the leaders of the 15 republics to cut excessive prices, blamed by a Tass commentary on the "short-sighted policies" of local governments.

Soviet shoppers stock up to beat price rises

FROM MARY DEJEVSKY IN SVERDLOVSK

SVERDLOVSK, formerly Yekaterinburg, has three claims to fame. First, it is the place where the last tsar and his family were exiled and murdered. Second, renamed after the man who ordered the murder, it is the birthplace and political fiefdom of Boris Yeltsin, the Russian leader, and, third, last month it was the only city in Russia to vote "no" in the referendum on a renewed Soviet Union.

If the Kremlin's swinging price rises for everything, including bread, are accepted without trouble in Sverdlovsk, the odds are that they will be accepted everywhere else. The reason is that this industrial city of more than 5.5 million people is also one of the worst supplied in a country where shortages are a way of life.

"How do you expect a city that has not seen butter for three months, and where meat

central government began paying compensation last month. Students receive 60 roubles (£60 at the official rate); families are paid 40 roubles for each child aged under 16. The extra money, however, will scarcely soften the blow. The average monthly salary is about 270 roubles.

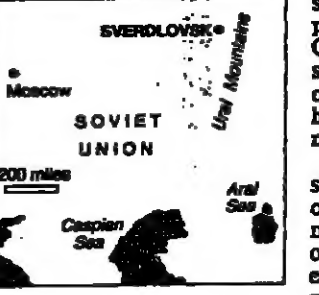
Anyone travelling on Sunday's 5.35pm Moscow-to-Sverdlovsk flight would not have been encouraged. Looking at one of the six or so dogs that had been brought aboard, a lively young woman said wistfully: "I wish I were a dog — at least you would be fed."

Yesterday may go down in history as the Soviet Union's last cheap shopping day ever. Everywhere people seemed intent on spending their last roubles, confident that they will never worth as much again.

At a central food shop, jars of pomegranate juice, dried sunflower seeds and apple porree were all that remained. Queues of a hundred or more stood for "stewing meat" at one rouble for about 2lb and half the individual monthly meat coupon.

Two other queues, no shorter, waited for sour cream: one for jars (of which there is a nationwide shortage), the second for the cream itself. For each customer the assistants painstakingly snipped out the meat and milk coupons from a multicoloured ration sheet.

To compound the difficulties, last evening the shops in Sverdlovsk shut two or three hours early to start the great repricing. Tomorrow many citizens will be queuing again from early morning in the hope that, at the higher prices, hitherto unavailable goods suddenly appear. Others will take one look at the revised price-tickets and go home, living out of their freezers and store-rooms, hoping perhaps that the new prices will soon go away.



deliveries are few and far between, to vote for the union?" a local deputy asked.

Stockpiling was underway throughout the Soviet Union yesterday as people stayed away from work to queue for basic foods before the price rises, averaging 60 per cent but in some cases approaching 300 per cent, came into effect today. The demand reached such proportions that bread rationing was introduced in some regions. Bread is usually the most abundant item in the Soviet diet.

To offset the increases, the

Georgians pick independence

By BRUCE CLARK

GEORGIA's nationalist authorities claimed yesterday that the vote for the southern Soviet republic's independence had been virtually universal, except in two contested regions where rival ethnic groups hold sway.

The government said that more than 90 per cent of the registered electorate had cast their ballots, with results from about half the polling stations pointing to a vote of more than 99 per cent in favour of

restoring the independent state, which was declared for three years in 1918. However, the figures did not take account of the northwestern region of Abkhazia, in South Ossetia, where local leaders have promised to keep their territory within the Soviet Union rather than become part of an independent Georgia. Only 62 per cent went to the polls in Abkhazia, where ethnic violence is feared.

Tass reported yesterday that

at least four people were killed and three injured on Sunday during inter-ethnic clashes in Georgia. Three ethnic Georgians were shot dead and one was injured in the village of Nuli, in the autonomous region of South Ossetia.

Another person was killed and two more were injured on Sunday night when missiles were fired in the village of Nicolsa, in the Gori region, Tass said, quoting the local interior ministry.

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Hong Kong puts British intentions to test with Hurd visit



Sir David: his future as governor is in doubt

DOUGLAS Hurd, the foreign secretary, flies to Hong Kong today on his way to China for talks which many see as the last real chance for Britain to prove it is ready to stand up for the colony's interests before 1997, when it is handed back to China. A successful visit is seen by the Hong Kong government and the business community as the key to restoring the territory's confidence, shaken by Peking's brutal suppression of the democracy movement in June 1989.

Hong Kong's multibillion pound port and airport project and investment plan for its infrastructure will dominate the agenda in Hong Kong and Peking and the success of the visit depends on whether a compromise can be reached. Announced by Sir David Wilson, the

governor of Hong Kong, in June 1989, to boost confidence and restore faith in the territory's economy, the scheme has become the focus of a political dispute.

China fears that Britain is draining Hong Kong's economy by building government-financed projects before 1997. But while some speculate that the project will have to be scaled down, Hong Kong people fear that the debate is not just about the number of runways to be built, but how much China will be allowed to control the colony's affairs before 1997.

Peking has sought a veto over the project by insisting that it be "consulted" on all matters which "straddle" 1997. During talks between Sir David and Chinese officials last month, Peking reportedly demanded assurances that a

minimum of \$4 billion should be retained in the colony's fiscal reserves at the handover.

There is also speculation over the future of Sir David, fuelled by his apparent failure to negotiate a satisfactory agreement over the projects. The governor's critics say the Chinese blocked agreement with him to deal with Mr Hurd, thus further undermining Sir David's weak position. It is now accepted in Hong Kong that the governor has "lost the mandate of heaven", as the Chinese used to say of dying imperial

dynasties. Sir David is considered unlikely to last in his post for another year. In Hong Kong and London, the search for a replacement is on. It is felt that a politician is needed. Speculation has included Tom King, the defence secretary, and Peter Brooke, the Northern Ireland secretary.

In January, Wu Xueqian, the Chinese vice-premier, insisted that only Peking could speak for the interests of the colony. Hong Kong officials emphasised that Britain was in charge. Hong Kong will be looking for clues during Mr

Hurd's trip that this is the case. If Britain can stand up to China over the airport project, it will be a signal that it will also protect Hong Kong's interests over the next six years. Some believe a deal has already been drawn up between London and Peking, and that Mr Hurd would not have agreed to the trip if agreement were not assured.

But by refusing to negotiate with Sir David, or the colonial administration, and forcing London to take charge, Peking has won. It has proved that Hong Kong is not responsible for its own economic decisions, and that ultimate control rests with Britain now and China after 1997. It is thought that Mr Hurd will come away from Peking claiming victory over the airport but having made secret concessions in the

interests of longer-term diplomatic relations between Britain and China. The Foreign Office is concerned that wrangling over the airport has stalled progress on other matters relating to the transition to the handover.

Britain is keen to have contentious transitional matters resolved by 1995 to ensure a smooth change. Yet big issues remain to be solved, including the use of the British naval base, HMS Tamar, in the centre of the colony's business district. Britain is hoping to move the base to an island in the harbour. China fears that the move is designed to stop the stationing of troops in the centre of the urban area.

Until now, Britain has voiced little concern about human rights because of wariness about rocking the

Bernard Levin, pp

Afghan rebels see seized city as showplace for their rule

FROM BEN WHITMAN SMITH IN MIRANSHAR, PAKISTAN AND OUR FOREIGN STAFF

AFGHAN rebels said yesterday that at least 1,000 guerrillas perished in the battle for Khost, after facing a hail of Scud missiles in their eight-year fight for the city.

The rebels consolidated their victory by establishing a 23-member council responsible for security and preventing looting, and summary executions. Najibullah Lafraie, the information minister of the mujahedin government-in-exile based in Peshawar, Pakistan, said that the council would also take charge of administration in Khost.

In a television broadcast to the nation yesterday from Kabul, President Najibullah said his government had lost contact with Khost, indicating its seizure by the rebels.

The slow but inexorable fall of the city had become a nightly spectacle to the Waziri

tribesmen remained unimpressed. "The show up at Khost is not for me or the Afghans here," said one of the tribesmen, "it is for you - for the Europeans, the Americans and the Arabs who have funded this war."

Stripped of its cynicism, this is a statement with which Muhammad Yakub Sheriyyar, spokesman for Maulvi Jalaluddin Haqqani, the leading commander in the Khost district, can agree, up to a point. "The capture of Khost is important not for its strategic value but because it demonstrates to the world that we are still a military force."

It is a demonstration that the mujahedin's backers in Washington and Riyadh have long awaited. Since the last Soviet soldier left Afghanistan in February 1989, the mujahedin have been riven by factional fighting. Failure followed failure and antagonistic bands of guerrillas made ill-planned and badly co-ordinated attacks on the heavily defended cities.

Some mujahedin commanders even began to fear success. The threat of civil war after a mujahedin victory persuaded Abdul Haq, an influential commander in the Kabul region, and other commanders to turn down plans sponsored by Pakistan's Inter-Services Intelligence Agency for a co-ordinated attack on the capital last year.

"The regime stands because we can offer no alternative government. What if we had succeeded in bringing down the regime through assassination or defection? I think that it could have been civil war. At least the regime offers some stability. The greatest problem that we face today is political, not military."

The commanders at Khost are well aware of this. "We can now set up a government within Afghanistan that will show us capable of ruling," says Muhammad Yakub Sheriyyar. However, he concedes that his commanders have a problem with the thousands of guerrillas who have flocked to Khost in search of loot and revenge. Public floggings, he hopes, will control the situation.

Even if they can bring stability, few observers feel that there will be much in Khost to tempt thousands of refugees home. Afghanistan can offer little economic security. But as one refugee said, "I want to bring peace to Khost, but I would indicate that Afghanistan had taken another step towards anarchy."



Sari power: thirty newly elected women members of the Bangladesh parliament being sworn in by Justice Abdur Razvi, the chief election commissioner, in Dhaka yesterday, three days before the new assembly's first session. They had been elected unopposed on Saturday to

the seats reserved for women under the Bangladesh constitution. Of the 30, 28 are from the Bangladesh Nationalist Party of Begum Khalida Zia, the prime minister, and two belong to the right-wing Jamaat-e-Islami party. The BNP agreed to give the two seats to Jamaat in

exchange for its support in parliament, which allowed Begum Khalida to form her government last month. Together with the 140 seats won in the national elections in February, these extra women's seats mean that the BNP now commands a slim majority in the 330-member

house. The Awami League of Sheikh Hasina Wazed will lead the opposition with 88 seats, the Jamaat holds 28, and the Jatiya party of the deposed president, Hussain Ershad, has 35. The other seats went to independents and smaller parties, including the communists. (AFP)

New Zealand cuts benefits in reform of welfare state

FROM RICHARD LONG IN WELLINGTON

MORE than a million New Zealanders - a third of the population - face cuts in their income today as a result of the government's decision to curb welfare state spending. The unemployed, single parents and sickness beneficiaries face big cuts in their existing benefits. Pensioners will not receive the annual inflation adjustments, due this month.

Despite protests from social workers and church groups, who have claimed that the cuts will lead to extreme poverty and begging in the streets, the government has gone ahead with its plans to reduce the budget deficit. Jim Bolger, the prime minister, has described the cuts as the bitter medicine required to arrest the drift in New Zealand from work to welfare. The dole payment was higher than many people were earning in fully paid employment.

Ruth Richardson, the finance minister, accused by critics of "Ruthanasia" over the cuts, says that the burden of state spending has sapped the country's energy and the welfare state has to be re-designed to benefit those in genuine need.

In tandem with the welfare state reorganisation, the gov-

ernment intends to pass into law next month the most radical labour market reforms since 1894, which will abolish old industrial practices, free the labour market and remove union monopolies. Criticised by the unions for applying a "Chilean solution", the government says this will help open up new job opportunities for people moving from welfare into work.

Mr Bolger's National party won a landslide in last October's election on a platform which included a pledge to redesign the welfare state. As a counter to the benefit cuts, Mr

Bolger said the party would win a landslide in last October's election on a platform which included a pledge to redesign the welfare state. As a counter to the benefit cuts, Mr

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the worst hit in the welfare cuts are the single unemployed under 25, whose state payment has been reduced from \$NZ143 (\$48) a week to \$NZ108.

Sickness beneficiaries in the same age group have had benefit cut from \$NZ162 to \$NZ130. The adult rate has dropped from \$NZ162 to \$NZ135. Single parents' income will be cut by \$NZ214 and \$NZ227.

The country's 539,361 pensioners and invalids without children will not receive the annual inflation adjustment which was due this month. Benefit eligibility rules have been tightened.

The universal family benefit of \$NZ26 a week for each child, an icon of the welfare state, has been abolished. Earlier changes brought increased charges for doctors' visits and drugs.

Church groups are organising emergency support and food parcels for families they claim will not be able to cope with the benefit cuts.

Zimbabwe rhino hunt condemned

FROM MICHAEL HARTNACK IN HARARE

ZIMBABWE national parks rangers, who have been fighting a seven-year war to protect some of Africa's last black rhinoceroses from poachers, have carried out a death sentence on a rogue animal, snaring conservationists.

Game guards have also shot dead two rhino poachers, believed to be from Zambia, in a gun battle in the Chiwero area of the Zambesi valley. At least 94 poachers have been killed since 1984, when Zimbabwe launched Operation Stronghold in an attempt to preserve the world's last wild black rhinos, estimated to number 7,000. Two game guards have also died in the war against the gangs, which sell rhinoceros horns for up to \$12,000 each on the Asian black market.

A private conservationist, who had wanted the problem rhino removed to a remote sanctuary, said: "I find it incongruous that they are shooting guys who are coming in killing rhinos, and then they shoot one of their own animals."

The rogue rhinoceros bull, one of 14 moved from the Zambesi valley in 1988 to a 40-square-mile game ranch, repeatedly escaped to graze in

the cotton and sunflower plots of peasant farmers in the neighbouring Hurungwe resettlement area. The animal became even more dangerous when it was chased by dogs and injured by a heavy cable snare. Two attempts to treat it under sedation with a drug dart were unsuccessful. After a third attempt, on March 10, the bull stampeded and fatally gored two sisters, Evelyn Chisanga and Monica Johni.

At the weekend, Glen Tubb, the parks department chief warden, found the rhino bull back in the Hurungwe resettlement area, where he shot it. There has been no official comment.

Zimbabwe's government-controlled media have failed to report the politically embarrassing incident, as officials weighed possible offence to international conservation agencies against the loss of goodwill from local people. Hurungwe tribespeople were reported to have feared that the rogue rhino was possessed by an evil spirit. Environmentalists have deplored the killing as a political decision.

Poachers have brought Africa's rhinos close to extinction, from an estimated 110,000 in 1970.

Husband plead for protection from wife

Dhaka - A group of Bangladeshi men who are often tortured by wives have appealed to officials for protection, papers reported.

A new committee "resisting torture a man" held a street march in Rangpur, north Bangladesh, the weekend before sending 14 demands to the commissioner.

The demands include special court to deal violence by wives to husbands and police action in cases of "grave threats". The committee said women torturing psychologically and physically by humiliating and them. Working wives refused to share foot unemployed husbands, some had killed their wives, the committee claimed.

The former president Hussain Ershad, who retook power in December and is charged with multiple corruption, set up a court in Dhaka to deal with violence against women. He also instituted death sentence for rape and assaulting women.

"This was a one-sided decision which neglects the plight of the male," the committee leaders told the district commissioner. The district commissioner had promised to consider demands, one new said. (Reuters)

Cuban pullo

Brazzaville - Cuban troops are to start pulling out of Congo immediately, an accord signed by the two countries. Havana 1,500 troops in the country, which recently more than two decades communist dogma. (Reuters)

Seoul UN ai

Seoul - President Kim Dae-jung has said South Korea has offered United Nations here and advocated it South and the North members of the UN set before the end of this year said that such a move bring stability to the Korean peninsula. However, North Korea joint membership. (AFP)

De Klerk for

Johannesburg - President Klerk has invited prominent leaders to a meeting Monday to discuss a new constitution for South Africa. The meeting will be held in Johannesburg. (AFP)

Kashmir kid

Srinagar - Unidentified men kidnapped a Swedish girl in Indian-ruled Kashmir, the first foreigner there since a separatist group began 15 months ago said. Johan Jansson, a Swedish journalist, was abducted while his wife and child were at home. (Reuters)

Eruption fea

Manila - Most of the 4,000 people living on the slopes of Taal volcano, Batangas province, 40 km south of Manila, have fled an eruption strong tremor last night. Volcanologists have declared Taal a permanent zone, but the village refused to leave. (Reuters)

Light touch

Tokyo - Emperor Akihito dispensed with an official prerogative and for the first time ordered his motorcade to stop at Tokyo traffic lights. The emperor's motorcade stopped at a red light on a private trip to attend a biology seminar. (Reuters)

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Male virility problems solved

AN important breakthrough in the treatment of male impotence has led to unprecedented success in recent clinically controlled trials.

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Arizona traps the best politicians money can buy

Shot from concealed cameras, the films are grainy, the soundtracks poor, but Arizona's television stations have screened them night after night to record audience figures.

Don Kenney, Republican chairman of Arizona's house judiciary committee, is shown stuffing a \$55,000 (\$31,500) bribe into a nylon gun bag and joking: "Are you sure there are no hidden cameras?" He talks of the sexual foibles of his fellow legislators and suggests ways to "fish them in".

Carolyn Walker, Democratic whip in the Arizona Senate, remarks that "we all have our prices" as she collects part of her \$25,800 (\$14,750) bribe. "I'm trying to position myself that I can live the good life and have more money... I want to die rich."

Bobby Raymond, a Democratic legislator, sells his vote for \$12,105

(£6,917) with the words: "There is not an issue in the world I give a shit about... I do deals. My favourite line is 'What's in it for me?'". He calls his fellow legislators "unsophisticated whores". He would do anything for money, he says, short of "sticking ice picks up people's noses".

Sue Laybe, another Democrat, accepts and deftly counts out \$10,000 (£5,714) in \$100 bills, unaware that her life would shortly collapse about her.

In each case the politicians were confiding in a loudly dressed man dripping with gold jewellery who called himself J. Anthony Vincent and purported to be a wealthy Las Vegas casino operator with mob connections. In each case their confidence was misplaced. "Vincent" was Joseph Stedino, a one-time Las Vegas television show host with a string of convictions

and a gaming background, being paid \$3,500 a month by the Phoenix office chief.

Over 16 months, operating from a plush Phoenix office provided by the police, Mr Stedino lined up Arizona's politicians to legalise gambling, saying he wanted to open a casino in the state. He handed out more than \$350,000 (£200,000) in bribes as part of a \$1 million "sting" dubbed "Operation Desert Shame".

It was a virtuoso performance. Mr Stedino about hidden cameras, and once offered to strip to show he was not wired. During important meetings he took instructions by telephone from police overseers, pretending the calls were from business associates. He always ensured the victims incriminated themselves: one legislator demand-

ing the casino's shrimp concession, another the right to run his gift shop. The only thing missing, he once remarked, was "the 'for sale' sign hanging around their necks".

So far 18 legislators, lobbyists and officials have been charged with bribery, money laundering and campaign finance violations, the charges supported by more than 500 hours of videotapes. Six legislators have resigned, another has been expelled, and most face jail. Arizona's now wear T-shirts proclaiming: "Arizona's Legislators: The Best Money Can Buy."

In a land where elections are won by spending power, corruption is nothing new. Charges were brought against 71 state officials in 1989 alone, and Federal Bureau of Investigation "stings" have since trapped three legislators in Tennessee, 14 in South Carolina and two in California. But in Arizona,

where the governor was impeached in 1988, it seems almost habitual.

With its bright new office blocks, broad boulevards and manicured lawns, Phoenix, the capital, has all the trappings of modernity, but its values still appear rooted in the surrounding desert and arid mountains where the cowboy culture thrived until not so long ago.

A decade of spectacular growth has sucked in dubious speculators and fast-buck artists. The new office blocks stand half-empty, drivers carry guns in their glove compartments. And if the politicians are corruptible, then the law enforcers, themselves political animals, are no saints either. Their advancement depends on results, and the end justifies the means.

Martin Fletcher

d visit

Tehran troops fight Iranian guerrillas on the Iraq border

From MICHAEL THEODOULOU IN NICOSIA



French hostages held in Lebanon.

When the Mujahedin moved to Iraq, their political opponents in Iran accused them of treason, while their friends said they would be unable to resist manipulation.

"If Mujahedin fighters did cross the border into Iraq, it was Saddam's way of getting back at Tehran for supporting the rebellion inside Iraq," a Western diplomat here said.

● **BEIRUT:** The American ambassador to Lebanon discussed the issue of Western hostages with President Hrawi yesterday and urged that they be freed unconditionally.

Ryan Crocker told reporters: "This... is an issue of extreme concern to the government and people of the United States. It is one that I am personally committed to doing anything I can to bring to resolution." Asked about speculation that a hostage release was imminent, he declined to comment. (Reuters)

Job done, page 10
Leading article, page 11

Husband plead for protection from wife

Dhaka — A Bangladeshi man who has been beaten by his wife for years has pleaded for protection from her. The man, who is now in a hospital, said that his wife had been beating him for years and that he was now unable to work. He said that he had been beaten so badly that he was now in a hospital and that he was now unable to work. He said that he had been beaten so badly that he was now in a hospital and that he was now unable to work.

Military chief has dovish touch

From PAUL ADAMS IN JERUSALEM

REGARDED as a superior strategist and hands-on leader, Lieutenant-General Ehud Barak, the new Israeli chief of staff, has been in demand since he was promoted in May 1972. He led the operation to rescue passengers aboard a Sabena airliner hijacked by guerrillas belonging to the extreme Black September group, in which one hostage and two past 14 years, Haganah, dressed as a woman for an operation which resulted in the assassination of three members of the Black September guerrilla group in Beirut. Kamal Nasser, the Palestine Liberation Organisation's spokesman, was also shot in the mouth. For all his experience of here and advocated such brutally efficient operations and the North, General Barak is thought to be a political dove. Before the end of the Shimon Peres, the Labour said that such a move, referred to him last year as a potential head of the However, North kept quiet.

The general said Israel would not have to live by the sword forever, but would continue to wield it as long as the situation remained the same. Johannesburg — President Klerk has invited temporary leaders to meet Monday to discuss the pace and direction of a new constitution for Africa. Andries Trepoort, leader of the Conservative party, had not yet received an invitation. (AFP)

Kashmir — Indian men kidnapped a Kashmiri in Indian-administered Kashmir, the first kidnapping there since a separatist group began its campaign for independence. The group said it had kidnapped a man from a family of a separatist leader. The man was held in a house in Srinagar.

Barak seen by Peres as possible Labour leader

Eruption feared

Manila — Most of the 4,000 people living in the area of the Taal volcano in the Philippines are now being evacuated because of the possibility of an eruption.

Light touch

Tokyo — Japan's government has decided to ease its restrictions on foreign investment in the country's financial markets.

Muslim seamen deny plot

From REUTER IN SUBIC BAY



United stand: Abdul Hakeem Shaheed, left, and James Moss rejecting allegations that they plotted to help Saddam

TWO American sailors yesterday rejected accusations that they had plotted to sabotage an American aircraft carrier and take its captain hostage to assist President Saddam Hussein at the start of the Gulf war.

James Moss and Abdul Shaheed, apprentices on the carrier USS Ranger, said they faced a court martial on charges of encouraging mutiny simply because they were Muslims.

Mr Shaheed, aged 22, of New York, told a press conference at the American Subic Bay naval base in the Philippines: "The only reason I am here before you today is because some people on my ship, and I guess some back in the US, prefer to think that all Muslims are evil. They do not understand Islam and instead equate all Muslims with Saddam Hussein and his ruthless acts. But I just want to tell you that all Muslims are not violent."

The two seamen are accused of trying to win support among the Ranger's 5,000 men for a plan to take hostage the carrier's commander, Captain Ernest Christensen, and sabotage its aircraft launch system. The navy's charges say they were acting in support of "Muslim holy war (jihad) sponsored by Iraqi President Saddam Hussein against the United States".

Mr Shaheed and Mr Moss strongly denied the allegations and their lawyers emphasised that no act of sabotage or kidnapping had been committed on the carrier. "We are not talking about any overt acts whatsoever," said Lieutenant Brendan Ward, one of their naval counsel.

Lieutenant Victor Bernson, the other counsel for the two, said: "Essentially what we are talking about here is disloyal statements. Nothing happened and the two have denied that they even made the disloyal statements."

No date has yet been set for the men's court martial.

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[†]Brewery Transport Advisory Committee, September 1990.
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Test confirms date of Dead Sea scrolls

From REUTER IN JERUSALEM

SCIENTISTS using a new method to verify the age of the Dead Sea scrolls have confirmed that they were written between the second century BC and first century AD, the Israeli curator of the scrolls said yesterday.

Magen Broshi of Israel Museum's Shrine of the Book, where the scrolls are displayed, said physicists at the Zurich Institute of Technology had completed the first carbon-14 dating test on scraps of the texts found in the late 1940s. "Until now, we have been able to establish the age of the Dead Sea scrolls by paleography (study of ancient writing)," Mr Broshi said. "But from time to time people have challenged this method as not sufficiently accurate. Once and for all, what we have believed so far has been confirmed."

Some 800 scrolls, written in Hebrew and Aramaic on sheepskin by members of an ancient Jewish sect known as the Essenes, contain parts of the Old Testament, secular writings and literary works.

Mr Broshi said the Zurich scientists had used a new method of carbon-14 dating which required only tiny parts of the scrolls to be used, minimising damage to the text.

About 80 per cent of the text of the scrolls has been published over the past four decades.

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Test confirms date of Dead Sea scrolls

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DESERT TEMPTATION

Never was the maxim so evident: ending a war is harder by far than starting one. President George Bush now finds himself facing precisely the temptation against which many warned him, the temptation to shift objectives. Every world policeman risks becoming sucked into civil war, turning a victory in America into a messy defeat. The president must resist the temptation. He must withdraw from Iraq as soon as he can. The US has a huge and well-equipped army. The army sitting in Iraq, a country from whose internal affairs Mr Bush emphatically denied involvement when he launched the Gulf campaign. He unwisely expressed the wish to see the toppling of President Saddam Hussein, but wisely stopped short of making it a military objective. Those words are now haunting him. He is being urged to help those seeking to make his wishes come true by sponsoring rebellion. But shooting down helicopters is easier from a Washington armchair than from a tent in the desert. Bombs could flatten more of Baghdad and Basra, but only fanatics believe that air power can either topple Saddam or hand victory to the Kurds and Shia Muslims.

The only military way of achieving these goals is to send ground troops deep into Iraq (and was indeed land presumably keep them there. They may face, as genocide might with good fortune oust Saddam, but the Commission on the spiral of involvement would require it), or even the attempt to sustain his successor. They might assist the anti-Baghdad rebels, but many of them are not allowed to. These rebels want their own state. No occupation. First, the Baghdad regime is likely to welcome it, and subjugated partition, least of all partition achieved by force. The American arms. Down this interventionist line, 6,000 men are in the country. The "Vietnamisation" that Washington has been doing.

The wrangle that broke out last week between the president and his Gulf commander, General Norman Schwarzkopf, is a constructive. The general said that he should have gone on north to destroy more of the Iraqi army. Far from turning the tables in the rebellion, the probable result would have been to prolong and make more difficult its suppression. Huge sections of the Iraqi army remained intact and far from the front. More

to the point, as General Colin Powell is known to have told Mr Bush after the massacre of fleeing Iraqis at Mutla Ridge, allied troops did not want another "turkey shoot". Public opinion could well have turned against such massacres, and this weighed with Mr Bush in bringing forward the ceasefire, to his credit.

The presence of American forces inside Iraq was initially leverage for the release of prisoners and for Iraq's partial disarmament. The former has been achieved. The latter has been overtaken by civil war, which is leading to pathetic pleas for help from anti-Saddam rebels who find the Americans' docile presence in their country baffling.

The original Gulf objective had been achieved by removing the threat to Kuwait, surely for the foreseeable future. Changing the power balance within Iraq, if it is a concern of anybody but the Iraqis, is for the United Nations and economic sanctions. Dismembering Iraq is not what even Saddam's fiercest enemies want to see. Turkey, Syria and Iran are happy to see him preoccupied with internal troubles: a weak Iraq is better than an unstable one.

American troops in Iraq are now in an ambiguous and invidious position. The shame of their presence might put pressure on Saddam to stand down, though he appears impervious to such pressure. The longer he stays in power, the more he can present the American presence as imperialism. Worse, the American lines are becoming a receptacle for vast numbers of refugees. Sooner or later the Americans must withdraw to Kuwait or Saudi Arabia. The longer they delay their departure, the more desperately will the rebelling Iraqis cling to their coast.

The Gulf war was conducted by Mr Bush with a panache rare in American military policy overseas. It must not turn sour in a welter of Washington lobbying and confused objectives. The UN resolutions are in place to cover a withdrawal. The screws are still turning on Saddam. But the Americans must leave Iraq, fast.

HEALTH AND HARD CHOICES

When the National Health Service was launched, Aneurin Bevan truly believed it would become ever cheaper since disease would be reduced and the nation get ever more healthy. The medical budget would be reduced by treating free everybody in need. He was wrong. Demand has risen to outstrip supply. The central weakness of the NHS hospital system was that, for 40 years, its use of resources was haphazard, its selection of staff clearances as much priorities irrational and its management muddled. The new "internal market" should mean more and better treatment for the same money and a start on rationing. It should be induced to direct their spending towards the choices of patients and their general practitioners, and not towards the favoured specialists of hospital doctors.

The reforms arose from the financial crisis of 1987, when thousands of beds had to be closed for lack of nurses to staff them. Margaret Thatcher announced a fundamental review. While unable to say how much total health care the country could afford, the review sought a more cost-effective and competitive health service by following money to "follow the patient".

An internal market with self-governing hospitals and general practices holding their own budgets will not bring an end to ward closures and waiting lists, though it should drastically reduce the latter. The "internal market" is not a *laissez-faire* ideal but is still run by the state. The "self-governing" hospitals were hoping for new freedom to set their own pay rates and borrow from the private sector. They have been denied this freedom by nervous ministers in thrall to the Treasury. Indeed so gentle is the "smooth take-off" the health department has devised

that the public may soon wonder what the fuss has been about.

There will be teething troubles. The systems used by the hospitals to price operations are so undeveloped that many doctors will not know quite what they are getting for their money. Many hospitals will be unclear whether they can cover their costs. But as systems improve and the good get better, the money should flow to them from the bad. Ministers must be ready to see hospitals threatened with bankruptcy, painfully putting their affairs to rights amid much bad publicity for the government. The acid test would come if the market ruled against a great London teaching hospital and closure was threatened.

Setting priorities is about rationing. At present, doctors ration health care by case. A sixty-year-old is unlikely to get a heart transplant. Non-acute surgery is rationed by delay, cosmetic surgery is increasingly rationed by price. Mr Waldegrave has decided to make the rationing of hospital care more explicit. A green paper in May will set out the national health targets towards which all health authorities will have to work.

Priorities were taking shape under the old system. Dentistry and routine eye testing have been largely privatised. People wanting cosmetic surgery, such as tattoo removals, are told they will not be treated on the NHS. Many NHS hospitals are no longer offering fertility treatment, or even sterilisation. Preventive medicine, on the other hand, has been encouraged.

Given the demand-led nature of a national health service, no politician's promise to spend more should be taken seriously without a statement of his priorities for spending that money. Mr Waldegrave's green paper should spell out these priorities. The public must be educated out of the old false world of unlimited health care and into a new world of hard choices.

WATERING THE RIVERS

No small rivers in the world have been so dearly loved, or have inspired such literature, as the chalk streams of southern England. Over the last century and a half, the classic techniques of fishing by dry fly for trout have been refined to a delicate art. The trout move through crystal-clear water as flies rest on the surface. An angler's imitation fly, matched to the natural ones except for its hook, is landed on the water's surface with the utmost lightness to tempt the trout to rise.

These chalk streams — the Test, Itchen and Avon in Hampshire, the Lambourn and Kennet in Berkshire, the Nadder and Wythe in Wiltshire — are not for fishermen only. They enhance the landscape. Fed by underground springs and therefore exceptionally pure, they rise in the belt of chalk that stretches across southern England from the Chilterns to Dorset.

They are under threat. The last three winters have been relatively dry, the summers relatively hot. Water companies, liking the natural purity of the water, have abstracted too much from the underground chalk aquifers that supply them. Water levels have fallen and in summer the smaller streams dry up completely. Algal growth has damaged the water weed on which insect life depends. As the opening of their summer season approaches, fishing interests are predicting that game fishing on the chalk

streams of southern England may not survive much longer.

The National Rivers Authority has made its first projections of water supply and demand in England and Wales for the next 20 years. In the south and east, projected supply will be inadequate, even if the climate does not change. The NRA is developing a strategy to balance competing needs for a resource which is no longer unlimited. This must mean some form of rationing by price, however unpopular.

Last weekend was the closing date for consultation on the future of water charging, undertaken by the Office of Water Services. This began as a search for the most acceptable alternative to water rates (based on rateable values) after the introduction of the poll tax. A reversion to property taxes would make the continuation of water rates viable, but with a flat rate charge there is no disincentive to waste. Charging for water should mean saving it. If general metering is not preferred, there should at least be compulsory metering for properties over a certain size, or as a condition of a garden hose licence. If river levels go on falling, hosepipe bans may become permanent.

Meanwhile the NRA is proposing to revoke abstraction licences in the worst affected areas. Water is precious, and even in damp Britain, not unlimited. One man's green lawn is another's dried-up river bed.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pemington Street, London E1 9XN. Telephone 071-782 5000

Dilemma on intervention in Iraq

From Mr Christopher Jackson, MEP for Kent East (European Democrat (Conservative))

Sir, As Saddam Hussein ruthlessly kills his fellow countrymen to retain power, and as we hear of continuing problems in Kuwait, many who felt confident about the richness of the UN-backed liberation of Kuwait feel more than a shudder of unease at what is left undone.

The issues raised are extremely complex, but should intervention continue to stop short with the protection of sovereignty and national borders, ignoring the most extreme offences against human rights?

The European Commission recently stated that the EC must in future ensure that its development policy leads to, and is linked with, progress towards democracy and observance of human rights. It is one thing for a donor state to make gifts conditional on observance of human rights; another for a state to link this observance to sanctions (as in the case of South Africa), and yet another to engage in aggressive action to enforce observance of human rights.

The practical objections to intervention are substantial. Intervention may cause more harm than good; it may involve outsiders in costly and totally intractable disputes, and it would exceed any authority so far given by the UN. Regionally agreed approaches, such as the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe, have much appeal.

The challenge is, however, clear. The countries which years ago produced the universal declaration of human rights still widely ignored — have a moral duty to go beyond the mere preservation of national boundaries, and develop ways of stopping totalitarian regimes slaughtering their people and perpetrating gross offences against human rights.

Human rights and government by consent must be the key, but the latter will still be unacceptable to many regimes. Should the UN

Security Council assume a new responsibility to entertain pleas by "rebels" for action on the grounds of human rights and government by consent? If not, should the major powers do so? At what point is action justifiable?

These horrid conundra deserve more thought and open discussion. While they are being solved, more innocents are being killed and maimed. As for the current situation, I for one would welcome a US decision to forbid all aerial movement by the Iraqis.

Yours faithfully,
CHRISTOPHER JACKSON,
8 Wellmead Drive,
Sevenoaks, Kent.

From Mr Jon Kimche

Sir, On this Good Friday, the Kurd in Kirkuk might well echo the cry on Golgotha, "Eli Eli Why have you forsaken me?" He would be calling not on his God but on George Bush and his UN cohorts, whose summons to rise against Saddam he had trustingly answered. There would be no reply from Washington, New York or Cairo — only cynical realism.

This betrayal of the Kurds by the calculated inaction and sophistry of the Americans, the United Nations and the Arab League will not have passed unnoticed by others in the Middle East now being encouraged to place their trust in President Bush and in the authority of the UN — not least by the Israelis and by the Palestinian Arabs.

The consequences of this shameful international hand-washing are bound to haunt the further efforts of Washington and the UN coalition to achieve any kind of credibility for whatever guarantees and initiatives they may have on offer in their peace-seeking process. Good Friday in Kirkuk will not lightly be forgotten in Jerusalem.

Yours etc.,
JON KIMCHE,
Camilla Lacey Lodge,
Westhumble, Surrey,
March 29.

Private investment code for Ethiopia

From Mrs Margaret Daly, MEP for Somerset and Dorset West (European Democrat (Conservative))

Sir, Earlier this month I led a delegation of five MEPs from the European Parliament's development committee to Ethiopia, and I agree with much of what you say in your leading article, "The politics of famine" (March 21).

There is no doubt that the foreign exchange crisis is serious. Factories are closing or are on short time because there is no hard currency to buy oil and foreign inputs. Urgent short-term assistance in the form of ministerial support is needed and may have to be given before a peace settlement is possible.

The conversion from marxism has gone further than peasant farming, as Professor Pickett's letter of March 19 indicated. All existing state enterprises are to stop receiving subsidies and are being set targets of efficiency, profitability and competitiveness, like any private business.

A new investment code for private investors has been drawn up, with the help of seconded officials from the World Bank, which provides a range of incentives and

guarantees. Restrictions on private investment in all sectors of the economy have been lifted, and local entrepreneurs are being encouraged to seek foreign partners in joint ventures.

We should not overlook the fact that peace will only come if all partners make concessions. The Eritrean and Tigrean rebels profess outdated marxist and Albanian versions of marxism, so it would be unwise for Westerners to assume that a rebel victory would hasten the end of any Marxist remnants in the Mengistu administration.

At grass-roots level we found people anxious for peace. The drain of war on resources has been enormous, and a calculated risk may have to be taken to stop economic collapse.

It would be wrong to label such action as "propping-up" Mengistu. Many senior figures in Ethiopia have shown considerable moral courage in forcing a philosophical U-turn. They need some help now to underpin and extend the reforms.

Yours faithfully,
MARGARET DALY,
The Old School House, Aisholt,
Spaxton, Bridgwater, Somerset,
March 25.

From Mr Peter P. Rigby

Sir, The draft plan for the City of Westminster, on which you commented favourably in a recent leading article (March 15), may reveal the strength of the residential lobby in that particular area and (after the abolition of business rates) perhaps the relative weakness of the commercial lobby; but the fact of its publication has no such significance.

While it may be that the highest rents paid for property in Westminster equal, or even exceed, the highest rents for property in the Square Mile, it is clear that landlords in both areas are currently having to attract commercial tenants with generous allowances and realistically reduced rents, in line with the economic recession which has been a feature of business life for at least the last year.

Westminster is no doubt one of the great cities of Europe, but its role is different to that of the City of London and its property market should be regarded as complementary to, rather than in competition with, that of the City of London.

Of the many factors that affect the rent levels charged for property,

perhaps the greatest is the amount of space available to meet the demand for any particular use. Rent levels in Westminster and the City may therefore be indicative of the amount of suitable space available to meet the requirements of those organisations wishing to take accommodation in each of the two areas; but they should not be regarded as a measure of the success or otherwise of local planning policies.

When the Corporation of London decided to encourage office development, thus furthering the policies in its local plan to maintain and expand its role as a leading international financial centre, it did so after careful consultation with its "ratepayers". In a changing world the City has responded flexibly.

If, as you say, Westminster has chosen to "turn away commerce", then that is their choice. It is not a choice that the City of London wishes to take nor one, I suggest, which it should be urged to adopt.

Yours very truly,
PETER P. RIGBY (Chairman,
Policy and Resources Committee,
Corporation of London,
Members' Room, PO Box 270,
Guildhall, EC2,
March 27.

Military 'minders' and the media task

From Mr Michael Mates, MP for Hampshire East (Conservative)

Sir, Professor Dworkin's article on censorship ("No news is bad news for democracy", March 27) is based on the wrong premise. One does not go to war to protect the freedom of the press, but to defend freedom itself. The fact that, in the Gulf, the media were reporting from both sides of the conflict made it even more necessary to control what the press reported in order not to put lives at risk.

When he writes that "the people have a right — even a duty — to make up their own minds... whether it is tolerable..." Professor Dworkin is correct. The people have six months to think about it and were not found wanting on either side of the Atlantic.

On the whole the media acted responsibly throughout the conflict. No journalist whom I met on two visits to our troops complained of undue restriction.

In a democracy the government of the day is unlikely to commit troops to battle without the consent (albeit tacit) of the majority. Once the political decision has been taken, it is for the military commanders to execute the will of the government as best they can. If that means restricting reporting until the conflict is over, then it is perfectly justifiable to do so.

Having assented to the principle that conflict is justifiable, the public only needs to know when it is over: and who won.

I have the honour to be, Sir, your obedient servant,
MICHAEL MATES (Chairman,
Select Committee on Defence,
House of Commons,
March 27.

From Mr Paul Jackson

Sir, Professor Ronald Dworkin severely weakens his case for less wartime censorship by writing: "Of course, General Schwarzkopf was right to prevent (my italics) television crews from filming the swing of his troops far to the left of the Iraqi defences, a manoeuvre that the Iraqis, without air power, could not see for themselves."

The implication seems to be that restraint by military "minders" prevented the media from publishing information which could have cost thousands of Allied lives. That is hardly an argument for relaxation of controls.

On day 1 of the air campaign, I understand, the media were asked not to report immediately that the two crews of an RAF Tornado had ejected over enemy territory and were being sought by rescue parties. Publication would have endangered the lives of the men, the Special Forces teams operating inside Iraq and the crews of rescue helicopters.

Inevitably, the story appeared on newspaper front pages on day 2; and the badly beaten-up crew appeared on Iraqi TV on day 3.

The public has a right to know; but it also has a right to be told by a responsible media. I believe the public would never forgive a ministry of defence which allowed only the sense of discretion of an average UK media representative to stand between their sons in the armed forces and death.

Yours faithfully,
PAUL JACKSON,
The Grange,
Pulham Market,
Diss, Norfolk,
March 27.

Religion in schools

From Professor John M. Hull

Sir, The account by your Religious Affairs Correspondent (March 22) of the recent letter on religious education sent out by the DES was misleading. The substance of the letter's legal advice is that:

...an agreed syllabus... cannot confine itself exclusively to religious education based on Christian traditions, or exclude from its teaching any of the principal religions represented in Great Britain. The precise balance of the content would need to be determined locally.

Schools are not told to "put emphasis on Christianity", as your headline claims. If anything, the advice strengthens the claim that the 1988 Act makes mandatory a world-religious approach to religious education.

tion, since it emphasises that the new syllabuses must not exclude any of the other principal religions. This, I believe, is a new element in the debate.

The letter certainly has not come as a "bombshell" to LEAs, as the MP for Selby is reported as stating. It does no more than confirm existing practice both since the new Act and before it; nor is there any reference in it, actual or implicit, to thematic teaching. Indeed, the advice re-emphasises that questions of content in teaching religious education remain a local responsibility.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN M. HULL (Dean,
Faculty of Education and
Continuing Studies,
The University of Birmingham,
Edgbaston, Birmingham 15,
March 27.

Justice in court

From Mr Charles Cunningham

Sir, May I, as a practising barrister, offer two comments on the article by David Wolchover and Anthony Heston-Armstrong, "Small steps to win justice" (Law, March 19).

1. The record of a police interview is commonly presented in the form of a summary of the tape, rather than a transcript. The summaries are often defective, in giving more detail to what helps the prosecution than to what might help the defence.

That need not be dishonest. After all, the interview is with a view to a prosecution, and precise writing is a considerable skill, which has to be learnt. These may be teething troubles, but for the present I almost always ask for and listen to the tape, if time permits.

2. While it may be too late, by some centuries, to go over to an inquisitorial system of criminal law, might it not be possible and desirable to introduce an inquisitorial element — namely, a professional judge of instruction, whose independent preliminary examination might help to prevent a recurrence of disasters of the Birmingham and Guildford nature?

That would not be a small step, but it may perhaps be one that the royal commission would wish to consider.

Yours faithfully,
CHARLES CUNNINGHAM,
St Ives Chambers,
Fountain Court,
Steelhouse Lane,
Birmingham 4.

VAT on the ice

From Miss Lisa Grief

Sir, It may well be reasonable to describe some of the more exotic lines produced by the ice-cream companies, intended to cash in on a short-term craze, as confectionery and therefore liable to VAT. It is utterly beyond reason, however, to suggest that the four-litre ice-cream tub, purchased with many other household items each week from the supermarket, falls into the same category — particularly as frozen yoghurt and many other dairy products are classified as food and are therefore zero-rated.

Yours sincerely,
LISA GRIEF (General Secretary),
Ice Cream Alliance Ltd.,
90/94 Gray's Inn Road, WCI,
March 26.

Aim of red routes

From Mr T. H. Hughes-Davies

Sir, Like most roads and railways, red routes (letters, March 26) aim for the centre. London needs a series of circular clearways for buses to link stations on the different radii. Many passengers could then avoid the centre entirely.

Yours sincerely,
T. H. HUGHES-DAVIES,
Breamore Marsh,
Fordingbridge,
Hampshire,
March 25.

Coming or going

From Mr N. A. Allington

Sir, In response to Mr Taylor's question (March 25), "cutting and running" occurs when the government's calling of an election catches the Opposition unprepared. "Clinging desperately to power" begins when the Opposition believes that its own preparations for an election campaign are complete.

Yours faithfully,
N. ALLINGTON,
6 Cresswell Gardens, SW5,
March 26.

An older Russia

From Mr Adrian Room

Sir, In the light of films reported in the Soviet press for certain towns to revert to their pre-Revolutionary names (Dury, March 11; letters, March 20), perhaps we in this country should take a special interest in the industrial city of Donetsk, in the Ukraine.

This town arose from the iron-works set up there in 1869 by the Welshman, John Hughes, to provide iron for all Russia's railways. It was accordingly named Yuzovka ("Hughesovka") and retained this name until 1924, when it was renamed Stalino (until 1961, when it was given its present name).

So far as I know this is the only major Russian town to have been named for a Briton. If the present remaining policy is implemented we could once again have a reminder on the world map of the enterprise of this successful British industrialist.

Yours faithfully,
ADRIAN ROOM,
12 High Street, St Martin's,
Stamford, Lincolnshire.

NHS dental treatment

From Mrs P. Hardy

Sir, The announcement of increases in the cost of NHS dental treatment is pretty meaningless in this part of the country, since almost all of the local dentists have recently ceased to carry out NHS treatment except for children and exempt adults.

There does not appear to have been any major outcry about this, presumably because not all dentists have notified their patients about their change to private practice. I only found out when I needed treatment for a broken filling.

Even under the NHS, dental treatment was not cheap. It is now becoming expensive, and a large number of people simply won't be able to afford it, or the insurance schemes which most dentists now offer.

Is the government aware of what is happening, and what, if anything, is going to be done about it?

Yours sincerely,
P. HARDY,
Berkeley Cottage, Green Lane,
Great Missenden,
Buckinghamshire.

Slow boat to Belgium

From Mr B. Sudjic

Sir, Progress is indeed a strange thing. I have just returned from a weekend in Antwerp and came back via the Ostend-Dover sea crossing. Among the tempting items on sale on the ship were reproductions of posters from the 1930s.

One of these advertised a crossing time from Dover to Ostend of three hours. The scheduled time for the crossing I was on was four hours.

Yours etc.,
BRANISLAV SUDJIC,
32 Cumberland Street,
Edinburgh 3.

Diet and menopause

From Professor S. H. U. Bowie, FRS, FRCG

Sir, The difference of about 10 years, in 1962, between the age of menopause in the UK (47 years) and that in the Scottish islands (57 years) is no doubt due to genetic factors; but it is almost certainly not induced by "harsh conditions" (Medical Briefing, March 21).

The illustration of women at a herring fishing-station gives a clue to the real reason. The diet of islanders a century and more ago was much more wholesome than in the UK as a whole, consisting as it

did of fresh and salted herring, white fish, mutton, cabbage, turnips, potatoes, oats, barley, eggs, milk, butter and other milk products.

According to the *British Journal of Hospital Medicine*, the average age of menopause in the UK outside the islands has increased from 47 to 51 years since 1962, with the "higher standard of living". This indicates that it was clean air and the health-giving diet of islanders in the past that led to the observed delay in the onset of menopause.

Yours faithfully,
S. H. U. BOWIE,
Tanyard Farm, Clapton,
Crewkerne, Somerset.

Letters to the editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — (071 782 5046).

Smart start to a fresh chapter in short stories



Average and under: (from left), actresses Anouska Hempel, Felicity Kendal and Elaine Paige, designer Edina Ronay and Madonna, the pop star

The average British woman has grown two inches this century. But at 5ft 4in, she is still no lanky, willowy model. Mrs Average, like her Queen, is short. Tailored jackets with power shoulders swamp her. Sleeves have to be unsightly pushed back, *Miami Vice* style, or turned up with the lining visible. Skirts bunch at the waistband as they are rolled over and over in an attempt to judge the proportions of an outfit that will inevitably have to be altered.

For those unskilled in do-it-yourself alterations, a minimum charge of £10 (in London's West End stores; £8 minimum elsewhere) must be added to every price tag. And without the leggy frame on which to distribute it, any tendency to plumpness is difficult to disguise.

But the rich — and the royal — are different from you and me. The Queen, although just 5ft 4in tall, enjoys the comfort of having her clothes made to fit from royal nape to base of spine to within the last, and crucial, one-eighth of an inch.

Otherwise she might have been tempted to join the 8,500 British women who recently followed up an advertisement for clothes that have been carefully proportioned for women of 5ft 4in and under, regardless of whether their dress size is 10 or 20.

"You know that a skirt taken up two inches will never feel as good as one designed two inches shorter," was just one of the common sense facts about fit with which Eastex, a manufacturer of clothes "for the shorter woman", grabbed its new customers.

Established in 1952, Eastex built a reputation for making serviceable but matronly clothes. The average age of its loyal, and obviously desperate, customers was 66.

Since it was acquired by the Alexon group in 1988, however,

The average woman is no beanpole and now, Liz Smith reports, some designers are beginning to tailor to her needs

Eastex has undergone a facelift. Judicious nips and tucks were made to the styling, but nothing so drastic that it would not be recognisable to old friends. A new logo signalled a new identity.

When the wraps came off the spring collection,

the actress Shirley Anne Field, 5ft 4in and dressed in natty new Eastex separates, was sent on a tour of 11 of Eastex's 220 retail outlets to host "trunk shows", the fashion trade's term for in-store promotions. Sales have already gone up by 20 per cent, indicating that the original target market — the 50-plus age group — can be expanded to include more youthful customers (statistics suggest that by the end of the decade there will be 24 per cent more women over the age of 45 than under 30). They can afford to buy new clothes and are fashion-conscious up to a point, some of them plump and all of them short.

Eastex can be forgiven for feeling smug about the growing market for what the Americans call "petite" sizes. Nobody looks chic in ill-fitting

clothes. The woman with the opposite problem — of being taller than average — can justifiably complain about never finding trousers or coats that are long enough. But unlike her shorter sister, she is definitely in a minority.

Shopping for clothes that fit must be a chore for the long-limbed, but she can take comfort from the fact that she probably looks willowy enough to carry off a normally proportioned outfit with more style than most. The short or short-waisted, on the other hand, look swamped and sad in a jacket with sleeves that are over-long.

Lesley Exley, the marketing director of the Alexon group, has been able to take more than a professional interest in the Eastex relaunch. At 5ft 2in, she understands how demoralising it can be to feel cut down in size when shopping for clothes. "I can wear Alexon clothes with the sleeves shortened," she says. "But I wear Eastex unadulterated."

"The strategic measurement is



The royal mean: at 5ft 4in, the Queen is of average height

neck to base of spine and its relationship to the distance from shoulder seam to shoulder seam. A jacket must be moulded to give a slimline look, without fitting snugly. A double-breasted jacket must be given narrower proportions for shorter fittings. There must not be a lot of excess fabric, but it must never be a straitjacket."

With Eastex there is no risk that mutton will ever be dressed as lamb. The clothes acknowledge trends towards softer tailoring, Chanel-inspired detailing, smart crests on navy jackets and sweaters, crisper colours and prints. But they are still basic. The skirts are long enough to keep the most conservative shopper happy and would have to be shortened for anyone who prefers a more fashionable length. "We always take a cautious approach to prevailing fashion," Ms Exley says. "We try to interpret the look in nice fabrics, adding good buttons or embroidery."

The neat jacket photographed here in a red viscose and polyester gaberdine, comes with pearl buttons, in sizes 10 to 20, and costs £79.95. Trousers are always constructed to lie flat on the stomach but are made flexible at the back with elastic. Red and white spotted mid-calf-length culottes (right, £49.95) fall gracefully to below the knee in a soft viscose cloth. A fashionable sarong in a splashy tropical print for summer (£34.95) is, in fact, a skirt with a cleverly cut "cheat" sarong wrap.

Next season there will be frogged, printed velvet jackets and more tweed cardigan suits, some with lace on the jacket, in a loose interpretation of an Yves Saint Laurent style of a season ago.

Eastex clothes are available nationwide. Fashion shows will take place at Dickens & Jones, Regent Street, London W1, on April 11 at midday and 2pm, 4pm and 6pm.



Making up for a lack of inches: when designing a jacket for a short woman, the measurement from the neck to the base of the spine, and its relationship to the distance from shoulder seam to shoulder seam, is

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Who wants yesterday's paper?

The patterns of the past are reappearing on today's walls



Old and new: (from left) two William Morris designs and a 1922 pattern, from Sand

Bar & Ingram, 13 Crescent Place, London SW3 (071-581 9077). Stock details below.
Cole & Son, 18 Mortimer Street, W1 (071-580 1066). Hand-blocked wallpapers and Victorian-inspired cotton chintz designs.
Colefax & Fowler, 39 Brook Street, W1 (071-493 2231); 110 Fulham Road, SW3 (071-244 7427); 151 Sloane Street, SW1 (071-730 9847). Stock details left.
Gray Evans, 51a Cleveland Street, W1 (by appointment only, 071-436 7914/5). Stock details below.
Hamilton Weston, 18 St Mary's Grove, Richmond, Surrey TW9 1UT (081-940 4630). Stock details below.
Liberty, Regent Street, W1 (071-734 1234).

Liberty print furnishing fabrics date from 1887, others are based on late 19th and early 20th century designs.
Mansel Canovas, 2 North Terrace, SW3 (071-225 2298). Stock details below.
Nobilis-Fenton, 1-2 Cedar Studios, 45 Gledbe Place, SW3 (071-351 7878). Co-ordinating French wallpaper and fabrics.
Perchman, 97-99 Cleveland Street, W1 (071-580 5156). Document furnishing fabrics by Tassini, often exact reproductions of 17th and 18th century designs.
Ramsay, Son & Crocker, Chiltern House, Kew Beach Business Centre, Loudwater, High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire (0628 850777). Mainly cotton chintz reproduced from mid 18th century onwards.

Mrs Moore, 16 Motcomb Street, SW1 (071-235 0326). Stock details below.
Sanderson, 52 Berners Street, W1 (071-636 7800). Stock details below.
Design Archives, 79 Walton Street, SW3 (071-3968). Fabrics and wallpapers based on mainly 19th and early 20th century designs.
Warner Fabrics, 7-11 Noel Street, W1 (071-439 2411). Traditional designs - floral chintzes, linen unives - and wallpapers and borders.
Watts, 77 Tipton Street, SW1 (071-222 7169). Extensive range of fabrics originally designed for chintzes.
Zoffany, 63 South Audley Street, W1 (071-6 9262). Stock details left.

When owners of historic houses - whether grand or relatively humble - come to redecorate, an increasing number of them try to track down the fabric and wallpaper designs that would have been used at the time their homes were built. Recognising a possibly fruitful trend, manufacturers are delving into their archives, or faithfully copying or adapting from textiles collections in museums.

Typical of the "new" designs are Colefax & Fowler's revived designs of 18th century French flower and damask papers from the Musée des Arts Décoratifs, and Zoffany's French floral classics of the 18th century and designs based on those of the Spitalfield silk factories of Hogarth's London.

Susanna Bar and Caroline Ingram, sisters who were brought up in a historic house with such papers on the walls, have collected pattern books of traditional and historical wallpapers from manufacturers in England, the United States, France and Sweden. Their shop offers a wide selection of wallpapers, and they will also try to trace the original block and prints in any colour. Failing this, they will reproduce the paper from scratch.

"Our clients tell us the date of their home and are keen to find papers of the same sort of period," Ms Bar says. "That is because these papers will look right, given the scale of their rooms, the architectural details and furniture, and because there is a genuine interest in restoration rather than redecoration. Some clients ask us to reproduce papers that were hung 30 or more years ago, often as reproductions of 18th or 19th century designs."

"At the moment we are finding wallpapers for an 18th century flat in Bath, a *manoir* in Brittany, a Grade I house being restored in Hereford, and a silk weaver's house in Spitalfields, London."

Many of the older textile companies have long drawn on their own archives for inspiration. Sanderson's archive, for example, contains thousands of printed textiles, hundreds of original designs and a sample of every fabric printed, woven or commissioned by the company since the Twenties. About 10,000 wallpaper documents include those by well-known 19th and 20th century designers such as Pugin, Craxie, Voysey, Owen Jones and William Morris.

Recently, Sanderson introduced Portfolio 11, a co-ordinated collection of classic fabric, wallpaper and border designs.

Robert Weston, an American architectural historian, started the Hamilton Weston wallpaper company ten years ago. The company specialises in the reproduction of 18th and 19th century designs. "Richmond Trellis", one of

the papers in the "Old Paradise" range, is adapted from an original fragment lined with a copy of *The Times* dated May 16, 1840, found in a house on Richmond Green, Surrey. "Papers of London", machine-printed wallpapers and borders dating from 1755-1840, have been reproduced from wallpaper fragments found in London townhouses.

Jean Monro, of the Mrs Monro shop, in London, specialises in chintzes. Deirdre Beard, a co-director, says: "Many are taken from old designs, for example the original reference for 'Lochnyr', a narcissus and heather print, was found in an attic in Scotland. Three of our hand-blocked chintzes - Rose & Fern, Lily & Auricula and Westminster - were taken from old blocks found at our printers."

NICOLE SWENC

DANCE

Athletes are in with a sporting dance

Is it sport or is it art? Debra Craine previews a unique collaboration that takes place this week in Leicester

Granby Halls has seen Louis Armstrong, Billy Graham, a camel caravan and a marathon yo-yo competition. But it has never hosted anything like *Opera Sportif*, a unique theatrical event that aims to unite more than 100 performers in a dizzying choreographic marriage of dance and sport, staged before more than 2,000 spectators over two nights in one of Europe's largest indoor sports arenas.

Taking its cue from the fact that the Sports Council has designated 1991 as Year of Sport, *Opera Sportif* features scores of local athletes, including trampolinists, cyclists, fencers, climbers, a team of basketball players and even American footballers in a one-hour spectacle. But sports enthusiasts should be warned: expect no scorecards or referees, winners or losers, for this is not a sporting event. This is the centrepiece of the second Leicester International Dance Festival, a work created by Lea Anderson, one of Britain's brightest choreographic talents. It uses 30 dancers, including the seven-member Chomondeleys all-female dance group founded by Anderson, and a specially commissioned score by Steve Blake.

The aim, according to festival programmer Nigel Hinds, is "to bring together a wide number of performers that will be of interest to a wider audience and get people in to see dance who haven't been before". The festival's first venture into production, *Opera Sportif* accounts for half the festival's budget of

£110,000 and represents an upgrading of the six-week event, which this year is presenting 21 companies from India, France, America, the Soviet Union and Britain. Funding for Anderson's piece includes a £20,000 Digital Dance Award, as well as contributions from East Midlands Arts and the Sports Council, probably the first time that arts and sports funding bodies have collaborated on the same project.

The nature of *Opera Sportif*'s missionary brief—to involve the community and woo new dance audiences—poses a challenge for a choreographer accustomed to working within the professional artistic sphere. The use of so many untrained theatrical amateurs limits the creative process; the cavernous confines of Granby Halls present their own logistical nightmares; the involvement with local authorities means grappling with red tape outside the experience of most choreographers. But Hinds is convinced that *Opera Sportif*, despite its community ethos, should be seen as an artistic endeavour. "You need to reflect," he says, "and you cannot do that without it being art. It just won't work."

'The constant challenge of technique is common to athletes and dancers'

—Lea Anderson, choreographer

community back on itself, you need to articulate the community and make that voice heard on a wider stage," Hinds says. "And you cannot do that without it being art. It just won't work."

For Lea Anderson, the experience is fraught with organisational headaches. She will not know until Friday night's premiere exactly how many people are performing. Entire groups have dropped out; others, such as the



Opera Sportif: marrying dance and sport and probably the first time that arts and sports funding bodies have collaborated on the same project

pensioners' bowls team, refuse to attend rehearsals.

Anyway, rehearsals at the University of Leicester Sports Hall have been chaotic: the trampolines cannot get in the door, one of the ping-pong tables is threatening to collapse, and just putting the various participants in their groups is an achievement in itself. The final venue poses further production problems, such as the tricky business of lighting a space that measures 30 metres by 61 metres and has no natural focus.

Seemingly undaunted by the scale—and the potential risk—of her enterprise, Anderson is applying her considerable choreographic skills to the task of turning sport into dance. Possessed of a strong rhythmic sense, clever facility with gesture and a keen eye for finding an imaginative movement vocabulary within everyday physical references, she is probably the ideal choreographer for the job.

Some sections of *Opera Sportif* are highly choreographed sequences, exploring one particular avenue of sports movement, such as swimming or tennis, without simply mimicking it. Others, such as basketball, are less structured, less in-depth, to accommodate the varying abilities of the athletes. Working with them posed unexpected problems: their natural aversion to dance and their unfamiliarity with performing to music.

"I have tried to overcome this by using movement which they actually do as part of their sport, and present it as movement for aesthetic purposes," she says. But, surprisingly, "the basketball team could not do any of their movements if there wasn't a basketball net hanging in the room, and the American footballers wouldn't do any movements unless one of them was holding a ball. What it tells me is that their movements are so strongly connected with the point and purpose of their game that they cannot conceive of moving unless they adhere to those rules."

If sport and dance make strange bedfellows, Anderson has tried to focus on the similarities. "I was most interested in what sport and dance have in common, which is the whole idea of performance, and of training and rehearsing with the aim of giving a performance of your own personal best."

"I have chosen to ignore the winning part of sport, which is not as interesting as the individual personal voyage which culminates in performance. The constant challenge of technique is common to both athletes and dancers."

Oddly, Anderson has never been a sports fan. "I have had an aversion to it ever since I was at school where I tried to avoid it. I had an almost obsessive hatred of it. Dance people generally loathe sport; but I'm not making a negative comment on sport. Just because I can't understand it, I am trying to find things that are interesting about it."

● *Opera Sportif* is at Granby Halls, Leicester (0533 554834) at 8pm on Friday and 5pm on Saturday

BRIEFING

Over to Bruce

THE press release, screamed "the most event of the century," a announced Tri-State version of *Les Misérables* last year. Yet direct seem strangely reluctant to handle it. The musical was first offered Alan Parker, director of *Mississippi Burning*, *Fame*. Then Oliver Stone, already immersed in his biography of Doors, toyed with the honour. Final responsibility for the century's highs has landed with Br Beresford, riding high after the success of *Living with the Enemy*. Just problem: he has not directed a musical feat before.

Psyched up

SUDDENLY music about Sigmund Freud all the rage. Hot on heels of *Freudiana*, Brian Broly's extra-gaude recently premièred in Vienna, comes a that Simon Callow direct a show as *Freudiana* in Los



Simon Callow: Freud date in California

gles next year. Thea cal, written by Wilson, apparently an encounter in between Freud, Will Reich and Carl Jung due to open at the Angeles Theatre Co where Callow has recited before, in Janu

Shaking

CINQUEPACE is medieval dance featured in *Hamlet*, also a new Shakespeare rep company hopes to win chart status this week in to encourage sponso and allow it to stay first production—*Hamlet*—in June. The founders, actor Cl Bates and fashion signer Julia Cambr are aiming their Si speak at a television-oriented audience. main sense for Si speak's audiences aural. These days visual," says Bates. Idea is that the d should be relevant today as Shakespeare was, with historical crannies in the costu But we'll stop short Shakespearean catw

Last chance

THE enterprise generosity of Roy I in giving over his Ma gallery throughout M to nearly 150 con porary British artists taking only a 20 per commission, can be doubted. For the rous there is a fine tion of Modern B (Vaughan, Sutherland, Piper, Glynn Philpot the way in. But youngsters come trumps with an erot impressive display (cent figurative art. Miles Gallery (071 4747) until Saturday

THEATRE

Deny yourself and speak plain for Sophocles

Irish author and Oxford poetry professor Seamus Heaney gives Harry Eyres tips on the classics

Yeats, speaking of the translations of Sophocles' *Oedipus* plays he made for the Abbey Theatre in the Twenties, said: "When Oedipus at Colonus went into the wood of the Furies he felt the same creeping in the flesh that an Irish countryman feels in certain haunted woods in Galway and Sligo."

If you were looking for an Irish blood-brother of Seamus Heaney's Philoctetes, in his version of Sophocles's tragedy, you would be more likely to find him in a pub in Derry's Bogside. That was where the play, *The Cure at Troy*, was first performed last October. It was commissioned by the pioneering, cross-border Irish company Field Day, which Heaney co-founded with Brian Friel and others.

But what drew the 52-year-old Ulster Catholic and Oxford Professor of Poetry to Philoctetes—the great Greek anchor marooned by his comrades on Lemnos because of the stench of his snake-bitten foot—was, Heaney insists, neither Yeats nor Irish politics. "It was the realism of the rotting foot—stink and howl—which first attracted me. After that came possible allegorical and political connections. Edmund Wilson in *The Wound and the Bow* links Philoctetes with the romantic vision of the poet as cursed outsider with a special boon. The character's isolation and hankering for connection tie in with my poems about the cursed Irish bird-king Sweeney."

The first political connection Heaney makes has nothing to do with Ireland. "I started writing the play at the end of 1989 when all the great events were happening in eastern Europe. For once, I felt, the historical record was giving a glimmer of justification to some sort of optimism."

The renaming of the play is significant. In Sophocles, Philoctetes obstinately refuses the request, first deceitful, then frank, of Neoptolemus to leave his barren island and rejoin the Greek force at Troy, where his bow is needed to ensure Greek victory; it takes the intervention of Heracles as

deus ex machina to bring him around.

Heaney suggests more of a change from within. "I have Freudianised him a little." As far as optimism is concerned, Heaney, with his characteristic sidling tact, says he is "usually shy about uplift," but detects a move in his work away from the "self-accusing delirium" of *Station Island* (1984) towards a greater sense of wonder and delight.

Despite the change of title, *The Cure at Troy* sticks very closely to Sophocles, following not just the plot and characters but the detailed structure, the changes from longer speeches to quick-fire dialogue of the original. The play is translated into unadorned blank verse and the language is bare almost to the point of banality.

"I don't know Greek, so the connections between words and the hidden language, the archaeology, were lost on me. I applied a self-denying ordinance, attempted to make it plain and speakable. What I had in mind was the first-night audience in a community hall in Derry. I heard the words with the grain and force of a northern Irish voice."

The first words of the version, "Philoctetes. Heracles. Odysseus," apparently a simple roll-call of heroes, certainly gain force when spoken in Heaney's own barred yet ringing tones. "I let myself go in the choruses," he claims.

To readers familiar with the rich, tactile imagery of his early poetry, these Audenque quatrains may still seem unexpectedly four-square. It is only in the choruses at the end that any explicit reference is made to the Troubles: "A hunger-striker's father/Stand in the graveyard dumb/The police widow in veils/faints at the funeral home."

But of course, despite Heaney's sly disclaimers, Ireland is always present in the play. The most interesting conflict is between Odysseus and Neoptolemus, the witty pragmatic politician who argues that the end justifies the means and the young man who balks at the role of deceiver.



Seamus Heaney: "I don't know Greek, so the connections... were lost on me"

"I think everyone in Northern Ireland has both an Odysseus and a Neoptolemus inside them. Odysseus is the solidarity figure, who speaks in the first person plural on behalf of the tribe. But there must also be the first person singular, the Neoptolemus, who says 'yes, but you must also abide by a strict personal morality.'"

As for Philoctetes himself, obdurate in his sense of grievance, Heaney says that the writer "must bear witness to the integrity of refusal." He

refers to the superb poem "Casualty" from the volume *Field Work* about a Catholic man who broke the curfew imposed by the IRA after Bloody Sunday and was blown up while drinking in a pub. "How culpable was he/That last night when he broke/Our tribe's complicity?" asks the poem. Heaney provides an answer: "He showed nonchalance and individuality in the face of communal solidarity."

The Cure at Troy ends with a different sort of explosion. Heaney makes use of the

reputation of Lemnos as a volcanic island and Heracles's connection with fire to make the appearance of the god a mixture of eruption and illumination. "I think drama can do two things: it can imitate the action, present a picture of a miserable status quo and say 'there you are, look at yourselves.' Or it can offer an image of the desirable, of felicity."

● *The Cure at Troy* is at the Tricycle Theatre, London NW6 (071-328 1000)

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men up,
Johnny
Gloria

David Satchell
The press release, screamed "the most event of the century," a announced Tri-State version of *Les Misérables* last year. Yet direct seem strangely reluctant to handle it. The musical was first offered Alan Parker, director of *Mississippi Burning*, *Fame*. Then Oliver Stone, already immersed in his biography of Doors, toyed with the honour. Final responsibility for the century's highs has landed with Br Beresford, riding high after the success of *Living with the Enemy*. Just problem: he has not directed a musical feat before.

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Ibsen's allure doubly revealed

US THEATRE

The Master Builder/other plays New England

SOME while ago, I addressed the Ibsen Society of America on the subject of *The Master Builder*. Flanked by two professors who spun theories about trolls and towers, I talked about how to cast Hilde and Solness. The scholarly listeners' cool response indicated that they did not want to know about such practical matters as actually staging the play.

I was reminded of my flop lecture on the way to the Hartford Stage in Connecticut to see yet another *Master Builder*. In Mark Lamos's fluid production, I finally found a Hilde and Solness whose intense, alluring and devilish evoked Ibsen's elusive trolls. Though Cynthia Nixon's occasional strictness were technical blots, their characterisations were psychologically full. The production has earned an invitation to the Oslo Festival this summer.

I frequent more classics than new plays in the regions on the theory that the pick of the latter will reach New York anyway. Lamos's production of *Our Country's Good*, for instance, began at Hartford Stage in October and opens on Broadway this month. The Broadway failure of *Our Country's Good* two seasons ago, however, made it unlikely that the third play of Joshua Sobol's Vilna trilogy would reach New York — so to the Yale Repertory Theatre for *Underground*. Framed by 1991 Jerusalem hospital scenes where an old man is treated during an Iraqi air raid, Sobol's drama tells how the Vilna ghetto hospital staff outwitted the Nazis to save Jews during a typhus epidemic.

Like *Ghetto*, the play has mordant humour, sensuality and poi-

gnant portraits of love and courage. The Jerusalem scenes, however, are awkward and confusing, and except for the skilful typus plot *Underground* has a meandering quality.

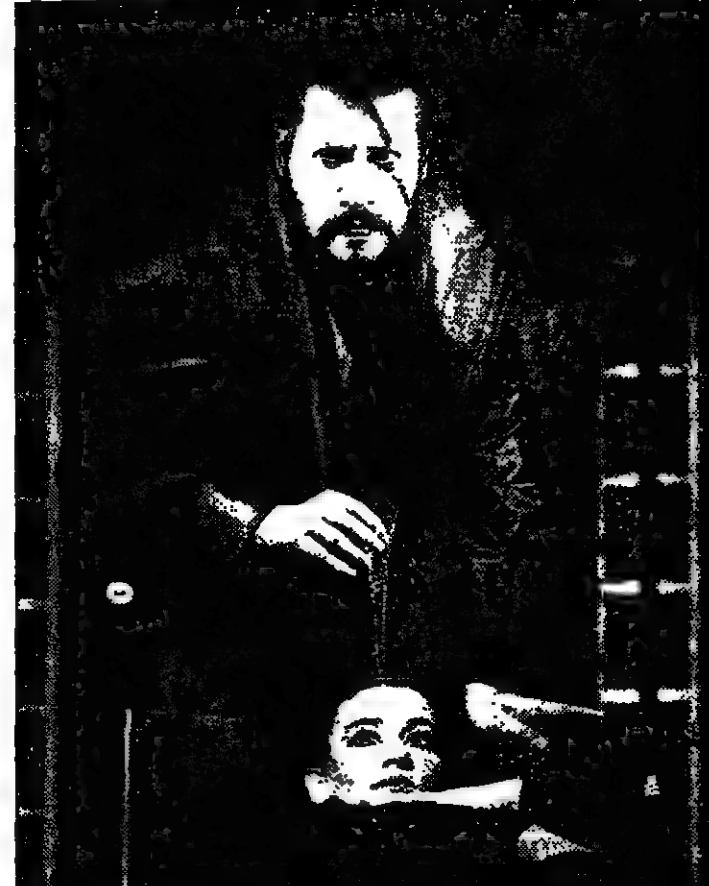
Trinity Repertory Company in Providence, Rhode Island, can usually be counted on for a fresh take on a classic. Its new artistic director, Richard Jenkins, invested *The School for Wives* with spontaneous lunacy, as if the Marx Brothers were doing Molière. Richard Wilbur's rhymed-couplet translation was combined with a ragtag band and a set and costumes that looked like pieces from 17th-century thrift shops. When the Amorphous came into the audience to discuss his problems, I found myself eager to give him my chocolate bar if he turned to me for sympathy.

Both Trinity and the McCarter Theatre in Princeton, New Jersey, have new artistic directors. At the latter, Emily Mann, playwright (*Execution of Justice, Still Life*) and director, has recently joined the increasing number of women winning top positions at regional theatres. She opened her first McCarter season with a tender *The Glass Menagerie*, with Shirley Knight as Amanda and Judy Kuhn as Laura, and soon directs a new rhythm 'n' blues musical that she has co-written with Nuzuke Shange (*For Colored Girls...*).

The most thoroughly satisfying 24 hours of theatre I have enjoyed this season has been in Boston, where "AT&T: On Stage" made possible Robert Wilson's staging of *When We Dead Awaken* at the American Repertory Theatre in Cambridge and an exhibition of Wilson's set pieces, drawings and videos of his works at the Boston Museum of Fine Arts.

Robert Brustein created an English version of Ibsen's text that Wilson further adapted. Perhaps a third of the play was cut and more could have been, so eloquent were Wilson and John Conklin's sparse designs — like towering cliffs rendered in two curves separated by a chasm, and a ribbon of blue light signifying a river.

Hans Peter Kuhn's sound-score and the performers' alternation of mechanistic and natural speech were tone-perfect. Wilson proves an illuminating director of literary texts, and he gave Ibsen's an unexpectedly sweet spin by adding three of his "knee plays" as entr'actes. All featured the Tony Award-winning tap dancer Charles "Honi" Coles (who also played the Spa Manager) singing jazzy love-songs and tapping out one with the entire cast.



Marie Arrambide and Stephanie Roth in the "AT&T: On Stage" production of *When We Dead Awaken* in Boston

Crowning the Boston trip was a Huntington Theatre Company matinee of *Iphigenia*. Tazewell Thompson coupled Euripides' two *Iphigenia* plays and cast them colour-blind: in Aulis, Iphigenia was white, Agamemnon Asian, and Clytemnestra and Menelaus black; at Tauris, Iphigenia was black and Orestes white. Formal patterns in the chorus staging and in the design combined with impassioned earthiness in the principals to yield Greek tragedy at its heightened best.

Most egregious example, enthused about a hitherto unexplored region of Italy, its fauna and cuisine. The problem was that David Bellamy enthusing about anything under the moon is already the far side of parody. It sounded normal; it was normal. Again, on the vexed question of EC regulations for the permissible content of meat products — a hoax which introduced the cherublike term "ethnic puddings" — William Whitelaw heard to emit the following lapidary sentence: "A threat posed to the traditional Cumberland sausage would appear to be real and to be dangerous." The fact that he sounded simultaneously waggish and pompous was no indication of his credulity, for he seldom sounds anything else.

As the career of the radio maverick Victor Lewis-Smith shows, the success of a prank depends on its blend of oddness and predictability, and is not worth the candle unless it perturbs or embarrasses people who deserve it. But then Lewis-Smith is a maestro among amateurs, a spin bowler who keeps taking wickets with immaculately straight deliveries.

If the programme erred on the side of usefulness, it was in demonstrating to what extent April Fools rely on twinking latent anxieties about the unknowable world south of Dover. A woman called Avril Premier told Radio Nottingham in a blatant *'Allo! 'Allo!* accent that, speaking in her capacity as professor of Judeo-Roman Studies at the Sorbonne, she believed it likely that an artefact recently fished from the River Trent was in fact the Holy Grail. The *News of the World* once ran an item claiming that the two halves of the Channel tunnel would miss each other by some

14 feet, the British engineers using imperial measurements, the French metric. This was so like that newspaper's average diet of xenophobic fiction that one would have read it without blinking.

To hoax the readers of *The Times* is a pious business, especially if done accidentally. We heard yet again the case of the former travel editor who found his quib about an unbeatable offer from Thomas Cook appearing in print when it should never have left his office. We did not hear about the television critic who two years ago invited readers to join him in despising an imported game show, *Pool Play*, in which starlets in weighted bikinis allegedly solved anagrams at the bottom of a swimming pool in Florida. To the best of my knowledge, nobody noticed.

HOLLY HILL

MARTIN CROPPER

triumphant at all, but something rather more cynical and frightening, especially in the light of all that has gone before — a despairing, austere and intense opening movement, an explosively violent Scherzo, a deliberately pallid intermezzo of a third movement.

For an orchestra such a piece presents the problem of sustaining contradictions, of preventing its own virtuosity from becoming too joyfully celebrated. This is where a man of Jansons' insight becomes invaluable. His was a superbly well-shaped, controlled account, even though the tempos tended to technique-stretching extremes.

The screaming fortissimos of the E flat clarinet and piccolo here caused physical pain, as they were designed to do. But there were moments of tenderness too, the strings often sweet as well as secure, while the woodwind, and particularly the refined oboe of John Anderson, seized every chance of displaying their more melodious qualities.

That same flavour of despair, though more concentrated, permeates Schnittke's *Ritual for Or-*

chestra (1984), written to commemorate the liberation of Belgrade in the second world war, which began Jansons' second concert. This monolith of a piece takes the form of a huge arch. Typically its ideas are simple and strong, its concept audacious, and its sound utterly original. Once again this performance was distinguished as much by its control as its atmosphere. David Corkhill's playing of the crotches, left exposed and isolated at the end of the piece, deserves mention for its coolness and precision.

Jansons and his players coped well in the first concert with a rather wayward soloist in Lynn Rathell, whose over-emotional stretching of Elgar's Cello Concerto went far beyond even Du Pré's celebrated interpretation. In the latter concert the young German violinist Frank Peter Knaum performed the Sibelius Violin Concerto with just the sort of level-headed approach from which the Elgar would have benefited.

STEPHEN PETTIT

RADIO

April Fools Radio 4

BY GOING out on the eve of the relevant date, *April Fools* (Radio 4, Sunday) invited listeners browsing through the wavebands to catch a dose of mischief without calendrical sanction. Just as the employment of the words "But seriously" connotes anything but seriousness, so this parade of straight-faced humbug from page and air-wave implied that you would have to be a congenial idiot to believe what you were being told — unlike the standard fare of radio magazine programmes, which merely invite you to suspend critical faculties while absorbing useless information.

David Bellamy, to take the

CONCERTS

Philharmonia/Jansons Festival Hall

HOW intensely, one wonders, do the players of the major London orchestras feel a sense of competition between each other now that the London Philharmonia has secured the South Bank residency? Certainly the Philharmonia players in their two concerts last week played out of their skins, though that may well have been because of the presence on the podium of Mariss Jansons. Visually he is an exciting and dramatic conductor, but often that can mean a superficial approach to performance. Not in Jansons' case. Everything in these two evenings pointed to meticulous preparation, and to judge from Jansons' gestures of praise and gratitude at the end, he is also careful to cultivate a positive relationship with his musicians.

Despite his brilliant reading of excerpts from Prokofiev's *Romeo*



Jansons: crucial insights

and *Juliet* at the end of the second concert, the biggest and most problematic work of the five Jansons tackled was Shostakovich's Tenth Symphony, the climax of the first evening. It was disturbing to sense the audience responding joyfully to what it clearly considered unambiguous triumphalism at the end of this piece. Being Shostakovich, and being music written (in 1953) still under the long shadow of Stalin, the passage is not, of course,

NEW RELEASES

• **THE BIG STEAL** (1985, MCA Australian company). Teenagers dominate, but Steve Bauer (an uncredited cast member) does the best. Director: Neill LaBute. Cast: Steve Bauer, Neill LaBute, Neill LaBute, Neill LaBute. Price: £19.95. (MCA) (071-433 8181).

• **DESPERATE HOURS** (1989, MCA). A family taken hostage by a psychotic. Director: Michael Cimino. Cast: Michael Cimino, Michael Cimino, Michael Cimino. Price: £19.95. (MCA) (071-433 8181).

• **GOLDEN BRIDAL** (1989, MCA). A comedy of a woman's obsession with a man. Director: Michael Cimino. Cast: Michael Cimino, Michael Cimino, Michael Cimino. Price: £19.95. (MCA) (071-433 8181).

• **KING RALPH** (1989, MCA). A comedy of a man's obsession with a woman. Director: Michael Cimino. Cast: Michael Cimino, Michael Cimino, Michael Cimino. Price: £19.95. (MCA) (071-433 8181).

• **MISTER JOHNSON** (1989, MCA). A comedy of a man's obsession with a woman. Director: Michael Cimino. Cast: Michael Cimino, Michael Cimino, Michael Cimino. Price: £19.95. (MCA) (071-433 8181).

CURRENT

• **AMERICAN FRIENDS** (1989, MCA). A comedy of a man's obsession with a woman. Director: Michael Cimino. Cast: Michael Cimino, Michael Cimino, Michael Cimino. Price: £19.95. (MCA) (071-433 8181).

• **C'EST LA VIE** (1989, MCA). A comedy of a man's obsession with a woman. Director: Michael Cimino. Cast: Michael Cimino, Michael Cimino, Michael Cimino. Price: £19.95. (MCA) (071-433 8181).

• **CYRANO DE BERGERAC** (1989, MCA). A comedy of a man's obsession with a woman. Director: Michael Cimino. Cast: Michael Cimino, Michael Cimino, Michael Cimino. Price: £19.95. (MCA) (071-433 8181).

THEATRE GUIDE

• **THE TRICKERS** (1989, MCA). A comedy of a man's obsession with a woman. Director: Michael Cimino. Cast: Michael Cimino, Michael Cimino, Michael Cimino. Price: £19.95. (MCA) (071-433 8181).

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CINEMA GUIDE

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WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 20

ANGUSTATE (c) Narrowed, compressed, strait, and as an active verb, to make narrow, from the Latin angustus: "It angustates and constricts larger vessels."

DISCOMFIT (c) To make in battle, to defeat or overthrow completely, to rout and humiliate, frequently confused selectively with to discomfort, from the Latin dis-privative and comfito + comfito: "To make ready, finish off; I Henry IV: 'Twice hath this Hotspur Mars in swathing clothes; Discomfited great Douglas.'"

HASENPFETER (a) A highly seasoned rabbit stew, from the German word: "Pork and beans, hasepfeffer, and corned beef and cabbage are equally palatable over there in New York."

NATATORIUM (a) A swimming pool, from the Latin natatorum (place for swimming): "A considerable number of Wallasey College girls patronised the Brookline [sic] natatorium."

WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Kane, Chess Correspondent

This position is from the game Usmanov - Korovnikov, USSR 1984. How does Black exploit the chronic light-square weaknesses in the White king's camp?

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Car tax threat, page 5



The wreckage of the car in which three women and a child were killed yesterday

Hampshire rivers and the vanishing water crow

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Business at the

Arab

Hot

BUSINESS

TUESDAY APRIL 2 1991

Business Editor
John Bell

Dollar drops in thin trading

DESPITE further evidence of American economic recovery, the dollar fell sharply in thin trading yesterday. After an overnight slide against the mark in Tokyo, the dollar lost ground against all leading currencies in New York, where it traded at DM1.6840 and ¥140.20. The pound retreated to DM2.9660, but dealers were reluctant to draw conclusions about the strength of demand for any currency since most European markets were closed.

The monthly index of the National Association of Purchasing Management, a leading indicator of the state of America's industrial economy, rose to 40.0 last month from 38.5 in February. Wall Street's average forecast for the index had been 39.7.

Although a reading above 44 would have been required to signal an economic rebound, the NAPM said it was encouraged by the rise in its index, which was the second in two months.

The NAPM's price index fell from 41.8 to 38.6, the lowest level since November 1982. The new orders index rose to 41.5 per cent from 38.3 per cent, while the export index increased sharply to 58.5 from 52.0, its highest since last April. The imports index rose slightly, to 47.0 from 46.0.

THF considers name change

TRUSTHOUSE Forte confirmed that it was considering changing its name to Forte plc, after a decision to rebrand hotels in Britain and overseas.

Lord Forte, chairman, and his son Rocco, chief executive, ordered a review of the parent company's title as well as the names of its chains of hotels, which include Travelodge, Crest, Post House, Thriftlodge and Exclusive Hotels.

Although a distinction between categories of hotels will be maintained, all new titles are likely to incorporate the Forte title.

ETU dealings to begin

DEALINGS begin today in Eurotunnel traded options on the London Traded Options Market. SC Warburg, Hoare Govett and Smith New Court are registered market-makers.

The options will trade as ETU and each contract will represent options on 1,000 ordinary 40p shares. The initial trading months will be June, September and December. No clearing or exercise fee will be charged by the LTOM in the first four days of trading.

NatWest move

NATIONAL Westminster Bank is to consolidate its international private banking activities under the name Courts & Co, which will include the eponymous bank in London, plus NatWest International Trust Corporation in Nassau, Bahamas, and Handelsbank NatWest in Zurich.

Greenacre buy

GREENACRE Group, the nursing home operator that formerly traded as Brewmaker, is paying £1.075 million cash for Elm Grove nursing home in Cirencester, Gloucestershire. Greenacre acquired Barrington Lodge in Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, for £500,000 this year. The purchases follow a £7.5 million rights issue.

THE POUND

US dollar
1.7600 (New York)
Exchange index
92.4 (+0.2)

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 Share
1953.9 (-12.0)
FT-SE 100
2456.5 (-8.1)
New York Dow Jones
2892.33 (-21.53)

CURRENCIES

London: New York:
£ \$1.7600
£ DM2.9660
£ Sfr2.5288
£ FF10.0452
£ Yen244.57
£ Index92.4
ECU0.691845
ECU1.445201

RETAIL PRICES

RPI: 130.9 February 1995-100

Industry price rise forecasts at record low

By PHILIP BASSETT, INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

FEWER British manufacturing companies expect to raise their prices in the next four months than at any time in the past 16 years, the Confederation of British Industry reports in its latest industrial trends survey.

The results of the monthly survey will bolster government confidence that underlying inflation will continue to fall.

The CBI's own economic forecasts predict an end to the recession later this year, with retail price inflation falling to 3.9 per cent next year, though underlying inflation might still be about 5.7 per cent.

Only 18 per cent of companies expect to be able to increase domestic prices over the next four months, down from 22 per cent in February. Sixty-seven per cent plan to keep prices unchanged, while 14 per cent say they will reduce them. The 4 per cent

balance — the difference between those planning to increase prices and those reduce them — is the lowest since the start of the survey in 1975.

The CBI also sees signs that the worst of the recession could be over.

Orders were slightly less weak in March than in February, which the CBI says suggests that the rate of decline has stabilised. A negative balance of 52 per cent is slightly better than the 54 per cent in February.

The rate of decline in the volume of output was also less severe in March. Thirty-seven per cent of companies reported output down, and 13 per cent put it as up, a negative 24 per cent balance, compared with a negative 36 per cent in February.

Sir Brian Corby, CBI president, has already said that the worst of the recession may be over, and Sudhir Jussankar, deputy economics director, said yesterday: "We are ap-

proaching the turning point of economic activity."

The CBI's forecasts take account of the Budget changes and the results of its industrial surveys, and say that the fall in high street consumer demand seems to be ending and the downturn in manufacturing output appears to be slackening.

With the prospect of lower interest rates, inflation will fall to 4.1 per cent by the end of this year. The CBI is predicting base rates of 11 per cent by the end of this year.

Increases in earnings are expected to slow to an average 7.9 per cent by end-1991, moderating further to 7.1 per cent next year.

Because the immediate outlook worsened more quickly than the CBI suggested at the time of its last forecast in November, total output is still likely to be down this year. As domestic demand rises and exports increase at a more rapid rate, however, the CBI is suggesting that that gross domestic product will grow by an average of 2 per cent next year.

Unemployment is set to increase sharply this year, rising to 2.8 million in 1992, despite the prospect of an improvement in economic activity.

In November, the CBI was predicting that unemployment, currently 2 million, would rise to 1.9 million in 1991, and to 2.1 million the following year. Now, the forecast is up to 2.3 million this year and 2.7 million in 1992, driven by what the CBI says will be the generally low level of economic activity.

Output in the first half of 1991 may be nearly 3 per cent lower than the same period of 1990. Manufacturing investment is expected to fall by 17.2 per cent this year, the largest drop for 10 years, within a sharp fall overall for total fixed investment of 10.8 per cent. Heavy destocking is still expected this year.

The employers' economists suggest that lower oil prices following the end of the Gulf war are providing a favourable international background for exports.

The value of management buyouts in the first three months of this year was only £270 million, the lowest in five years. A survey by KPMG Peat Marwick McLintock, the accountants, found only seven buyouts valued at more than £10 million this year, compared with 57 last year.

Dixons computes small firm needs



Switching on to the requirements of smaller businesses: Rupert Gavin, group commercial director at Dixons

DIXONS, the cameras to computers retail chain, is expanding its network of business centres to tap what appears to be one of the few promising markets remaining in the high street (Derek Harris writes).

Small to medium-sized businesses in search of a computerisation solution to their organisational problems are Dixons' target customers.

Rupert Gavin, group commercial director at Dixons, said bigger businesses buying in greater volume dealt directly with computer manufacturers or specialists, but smaller companies were unable to.

Dixons' business centres began modestly, typically taking up about a fifth of the average shop. Mr Gavin origi-

nally expected to set up 80 business centres by the beginning of this year. However, sales of business aids, such as computers and fax machines, was found to add 10 per cent on average to a branch's sales.

In the past 12 months, year on year growth in business products at Dixons' shops have been up 30 per cent.

The sales uplift led to the rate of establishing centres being stepped up. There are now 114, with another 20 in the pipeline.

Mr Gavin said: "We could well have 160 open within a year to 18 months."

Dixons believes it leads the electronic goods chains in catering in this way for the smaller business. With their modest size as customers, they have some of the characteris-

tics of an individual purchaser while sharing, to an extent, the sort of needs familiar among long-time bigger business users of computer products.

Mr Gavin said: "We have had a learning curve. At first we didn't get the software right."

"Now we match up computers, printers and software to supply packages for specific uses — for instance word processing or financial spreadsheets or desk top publishing. It means we can address more precisely the needs of the individual business."

Dixons also has specially trained business centre staff. Telephone helplines, offer advice on buying computers and on-site service is usually provided within 24 hours. Mr

Gavin said that an element in the business centre sales was gaining more market share, but much was new custom where computers and software are being bought in for the first time.

A boost is also expected from price markdowns by many manufacturers. Hardware price cuts of 15 per cent to 20 per cent are being made to stimulate sales during the recession.

One laptop computer, which Dixons has been selling at just less than £1,700, has been marked down by £500.

Mr Gavin said: "I believe the really big breakthrough for sales will be when machines in that sort of bracket routinely drop below £1,000 and this seems likely to happen by the autumn."

Gulf war hits Tokyo reserves

From REUTER IN TOKYO

JAPAN has plundered its foreign exchange reserves to meet the huge contribution it agreed to pay to defray the military costs of the allied fighting in the Gulf.

In March, Japan's reserves plunged by a monthly record of \$8.08 billion to \$69.9 billion — their lowest level for four years, despite Japan's heavy trade surpluses.

A foreign ministry spokesman said the Japanese government set aside ¥1.17 thousand billion (£4.78 billion) in its budget and transferred that amount into its Gulf Peace Fund in Saudi Arabia on March 13. America received \$5.7 billion from the fund by March 23. The Bank of Japan is also thought to have spent about \$550 million supporting the ailing yen during March.

Foreign exchange markets had nervously awaited the transfer, fearing that converting Japan's Gulf aid contribution from yen into dollars would send the American currency sharply higher.

Japan is thought to have transferred the aid via a special account at the American Federal Reserve. Such an exchange would be outside foreign exchange markets and would not affect the dollar/yen rate.

Share prices fell in thin trading on the Tokyo stock exchange. The Nikkei index was down 284.64 points or 1.08 per cent to 26,007.40, with a meagre 300 million shares traded.

Enquiry into Renoir sales

By ROSS TIEMAN

CORPORATE Japan's obsession with collecting impressionist works of art has led to an investigation by Japanese tax authorities into the purchase of two Renoir paintings by Mitsubishi Corporation, one of Japan's most prominent and respected trading houses.

The enquiry is investigating the price paid for the pictures and their provenance. Mitsubishi says it paid two Frenchmen ¥3 billion (£12.2 million)

for a painting entitled *Woman After Bathing*, and ¥600 million for a work called *Woman Reading*.

However, a firm of Tokyo art dealers reported that it sold the pictures on the same day for ¥2.12 billion.

Under Japanese tax laws, Mitsubishi is able to claim the cost of the paintings as deductions on its tax return. If it were found that it had paid a lower price than it said, it could be liable to pay tax on the difference.

According to reports from Japan, the tax enquiry found no trace of the Frenchmen at the Swiss addresses they gave — nor any evidence that they had been in Japan on the day of the transaction. Tax authorities in Japan have declined to make any comment on the dispute until their investigation is complete.

Mitsubishi insists the transaction was entirely above board. A spokesman said: "Mitsubishi bought the paintings from real persons."

Arab Banking loses \$91m

By ROSS TIEMAN

ARAB Banking Corporation, the biggest Arab international bank and the first to offer its shares to Western investors, made a net loss of \$91 million during 1990.

Abdulla Saudi, president and chief executive, blamed Iraq's invasion of Kuwait last August, deepening recession in the industrial world and debt problems in developing countries for the result.

ABC International Bank, ABC's European arm, opens in London today with authorised capital of £300 million, of which £150 million

will be paid up. Although ABC is based in Bahrain, and has only 17 per cent of its assets in the Gulf states, it suffered withdrawals of \$1.4 billion, more than 10 per cent of its deposits, when hostilities developed. Mr Saudi was able to disburse the Americans from freezing the bank's assets, although the Kuwaiti government owns 25 per cent of the shares.

ABC had a good first half. Mr Saudi said, but once hostilities began, the company had to forgo expansion plans and adopt "policies and mea-

sures to protect shareholders' funds as well as to be able to meet all our obligations and commitments."

The bank set aside \$179 million in loan loss provisions in 1990, bringing total cover against non-performing loans to \$846 million, or 7.5 per cent. Total income for the year rose 9.7 per cent to a record \$555 million.

Abu Dhabi and Libya also each held 25 per cent stakes in ABC, but last year made a \$350 million international offer of new shares, equal to a quarter of its equity.

Hotel with a touch of Armani

By JON ASHWORTH

THE finest marble money can buy, television sets that float on magnets and a coffee machine that cost £10,000. These are the ingredients of The Halkin, possibly the most exclusive privately owned hotel in London, which opens today.

Tucked away in a neat corner of Belgrave, near the embassy, and just over the road from Buckingham Palace, The Halkin has been built in three and a half years, has only 41 rooms, and has followed the exacting standards of the Grosvenor Estate to the letter.

The hotel is the latest feather in the designer caps of Ong Beng Seng, the reclusive Singaporean entrepreneur and his wife, Christina, who between them run KUO International Group, a financial trading empire, which takes in everything from oil to Haagen-Daz ice cream.

Mr Ong, known as "BS", gave his wife a free hand in the project. The result is an

impressive property and a price tag of £25 million, 40 per cent of it in bank borrowings, and the remaining £15 million paid in cash from the KUO reserves.

If the staff appear superbly dressed, do not be surprised. Mrs Ong is a close friend of Bruce Oldfield, one of the Princess of Wales' favourite designers, and Giorgio Armani, the fashion king, who has designed the hotel's uniforms.

KUO Investments, well-known in Singapore business circles, is a family business. Mr Ong is managing director of KUO, and Peter Fu, the chairman, is his father-in-law. Many of KUO's worldwide investments are registered in his wife's name. Related companies include Avanti Hotels International and Hotel Properties.

Formed in the Fifties to trade in commodities, including rice and paper, the Singapore conglomerate has grown into a worldwide trading empire. It began trading in oil after the 1973 energy troubles, and first dipped its toes in the

property market towards the end of the Seventies.

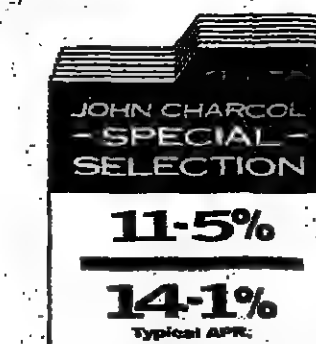
Today, the group has a property portfolio that includes the Four Seasons in Montreal and the 300-room Four Seasons Singapore. The list also features the Singapore Hilton and the equally plush Meridien, and the group has begun laying the foundations for a new condominium on the Singapore waterfront. KUO also holds the local franchise for Haagen-Daz ice cream.

The Halkin is not the group's first project in London but it is the most ambitious. Mr and Mrs Ong hold a 51 per cent stake in the Inn on the Park, and have made their mark on shoppers in Knightsbridge. Mrs Ong's local interests include Emporio Armani, the clothing and luxury goods store on Brompton Road, and Giorgio Armani in Sloane Street.

Rooms at the Halkin, which cost between £140 and £450 a night, each have two telephone lines, three telephones and a personal fax machine.

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مركز لاند

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STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

Capitalisation and change on week

(Current market price multiplied by the number of shares in issue for the stock quoted)
ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings begin today. Dealings end April 12. Settlement day April 22.
Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days.

Prices are Thursday's middle prices. Change, dividend, yield and P/E ratios are calculated on middle prices.

Portfolio

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EUROPEAN

From your Portfolio Platinum card check your cash share price movements on this page only. Add them up to give you your overall total and check against the daily dividend figure. If it matches you have won outright or a share of the daily prize money. If you win, follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. Always have your card available when claiming. Game rules appear on the back of your card.

No.	Company	Group	Share Price
1	Allied Text	Textiles	1.10
2	Wool	Textiles	1.10
3	Am New Z	Textiles	1.10
4	Goal Pet	Textiles	1.10
5	Unitech	Textiles	1.10
6	Christie Int	Textiles	1.10
7	Leisure	Textiles	1.10
8	Leisure	Textiles	1.10
9	Smart (H)	Textiles	1.10
10	St Ives Gr	Textiles	1.10
11	Parkland A	Textiles	1.10
12	Brown Shipley	Textiles	1.10
13	Carlisle Comm	Textiles	1.10
14	Johnstone Press	Textiles	1.10
15	Taylor Wadsworth	Textiles	1.10
16	Smith & Neph	Textiles	1.10
17	Burton	Textiles	1.10
18	Brownrigg Inds	Textiles	1.10
19	Donmuir	Textiles	1.10
20	Tibbet & Bates	Textiles	1.10
21	Nat West	Textiles	1.10
22	Wellcome	Textiles	1.10
23	Albright Mead	Textiles	1.10
24	Smith WH A	Textiles	1.10
25	Beck	Textiles	1.10
26	Molins	Textiles	1.10
27	Pock	Textiles	1.10
28	Ranger	Textiles	1.10
29	McKeehan	Textiles	1.10
30	Cannon St	Textiles	1.10
31	Unipol	Textiles	1.10
32	Yorkshire Chem	Textiles	1.10
33	Gold Greenleaf	Textiles	1.10
34	Community Hospital	Textiles	1.10
35	Walker Greenleaf	Textiles	1.10
36	Stern Water	Textiles	1.10
37	Ocean Group	Textiles	1.10
38	Severn Trent	Textiles	1.10
39	Shea	Textiles	1.10
40	BICC	Textiles	1.10
41	Day Motors	Textiles	1.10
42	Wicks	Textiles	1.10
43	Unigate	Textiles	1.10
44	Central TV	Textiles	1.10

Please take into account any minus signs

Weekly Dividend
Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £4,000 in Saturday's newspaper.

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT

The weekly Portfolio Platinum prize of £8,000 was won by Mr Norman Rogers, of Hale Barns, Altrincham, Cheshire.

Start	End	Price	Change	Yield	Div	Div	Div
Start	End	Price	Change	Yield	Div	Div	Div

SHORTS (Under Five Years)	Start	End	Price	Change	Yield	Div	Div	Div
12000	12000	12000	12000	12000	12000	12000	12000	12000

FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS	Start	End	Price	Change	Yield	Div	Div	Div
12000	12000	12000	12000	12000	12000	12000	12000	12000

OVER FIFTEEN YEARS	Start	End	Price	Change	Yield	Div	Div	Div
12000	12000	12000	12000	12000	12000	12000	12000	12000

UNDATED	Start	End	Price	Change	Yield	Div	Div	Div
12000	12000	12000	12000	12000	12000	12000	12000	12000

INDEX-LINKED	Start	End	Price	Change	Yield	Div	Div	Div
12000	12000	12000	12000	12000	12000	12000	12000	12000

BANKS, DISCOUNT, HP	Start	End	Price	Change	Yield	Div	Div	Div
12000	12000	12000	12000	12000	12000	12000	12000	12000

ELECTRICALS	Start	End	Price	Change	Yield	Div	Div	Div
12000	12000	12000	12000	12000	12000	12000	12000	12000

INDUSTRIALS A-D	Start	End	Price	Change	Yield	Div	Div	Div
12000	12000	12000	12000	12000	12000	12000	12000	12000

HOTELS, CATERERS	Start	End	Price	Change	Yield	Div	Div	Div
12000	12000	12000	12000	12000	12000	12000	12000	12000

INDUSTRIALS E-K	Start	End	Price	Change	Yield	Div	Div	Div
12000	12000	12000	12000	12000	12000	12000	12000	12000

INDUSTRIALS L-R	Start	End	Price	Change	Yield	Div	Div	Div
12000	12000	12000	12000	12000	12000	12000	12000	12000

INDUSTRIALS S-Z	Start	End	Price	Change	Yield	Div	Div	Div
12000	12000	12000	12000	12000	12000	12000	12000	12000

INDUSTRIALS A-D	Start	End	Price	Change	Yield	Div	Div	Div
12000	12000	12000	12000	12000	12000	12000	12000	12000

INDUSTRIALS E-K	Start	End	Price	Change	Yield	Div	Div	Div
12000	12000	12000	12000	12000	12000	12000	12000	12000

INDUSTRIALS L-R	Start	End	Price	Change	Yield	Div	Div	Div
12000	12000	12000	12000	12000	12000	12000	12000	12000

INDUSTRIALS S-Z	Start	End	Price	Change	Yield	Div	Div	Div
12000	12000	12000	12000	12000	12000	12000	12000	12000

Chemicals	Start	End	Price	Change	Yield	Div	Div	Div
12000	12000	12000	12000	12000	12000	12000	12000	12000

BREWERIES	Start	End	Price	Change	Yield	Div	Div	Div
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Early this year, the Bar promoted what many consider a revolutionary concept: that the courts should be run for the convenience of the people. We urged the tearing-up of the rule maintained by the civil service that a judge must never be kept waiting. This means that thousands of people involved in litigation have to hang around courts every day so that judges do not have to get out of their judicial chairs.

We have had a lot of support from the public and the profession, including judges, some of whom have "blown the gaff".

Practitioners send me lists showing ten cases listed for 10.30am, and have told of how their team, including doctors, plaintiff and witnesses, have waited stoically all day in a draughty corridor, only to be told around 3pm that there is no time for their case.

Yet nothing happens. Perhaps one day somebody will work out the cost of all this waiting.

The test that the legal system should be run for the people should be applied to other areas as well. The Bar is continually being criticised for not charging on the basis of an hourly rate, as most solicitors' firms do. I can see at once the benefits of charging the hapless client on the basis of an hourly rate. The more inefficient the service, the more hours will be earned.

If the lawyer, through incompetence, embarks on hours of wasted research, it is the client who pays. I have never understood what is wrong with the "job lot" approach. If you underestimate the cost, it is down to the

Serving those who stand and wait



Why should the courts move at a

pace that may suit the judiciary but wastes the costly time of everyone else involved?

Anthony Scrivener, QC (right), reports on a Bar proposal to make the process faster



lawyer who is supposed to be the expert, not the client who is not. Consumer resistance in the United States to the hourly rate is increasing. It takes a good advocate to try to defend it.

So when the advisory committee set up by the Courts and Legal Services Act 1990 starts its deliberations to decide who shall have rights of audience in the courts, the touchstone should be what is best for the people.

All should have access to the same corps of advocates. We do not want the public-defender system, in which the poor on legal aid get the young and inexperienced, who, when they have cut their teeth on the legally aided, are ready to work full-time for the wealthy — a sort of progression into opulence.

Everybody must have the same choice and the opportunity to choose the best advocate for the case. No advocate or litigator should be forced on a client by some condition of business. The client has the right to make a free and informed choice in an open and competitive market. You do not achieve this by your

friendly neighbourhood lawyer requiring you to sign a "tying-in" clause requiring you to accept both the firm's litigation and advocacy services. Tying-in requirements are anti-competitive and against the public interest. The Law Society has rightly protested against such clauses in the case of tying in conveyancing services to the provision of residential property loans, and this is now prohibited in the Courts and Legal Services Act. I hope the society's protests will be equally strong against tying in advocacy on litigation services. There should be freedom of choice.

We are still reeling from the effects of the Birmingham Six case.

The debates about why it happened and what can be done to prevent its happening again will no doubt continue. The Royal Commission will begin its deliberations, and the advisory committee will have to consider whether it is in the interests of the public to create for the first time in this country an advocate who is a professional employed prosecutor, somebody who never defends and whose only function is to prosecute.

At present, barristers in criminal work do both. They are independent of the prosecuting authority and are able to exercise independent judgment free from any possibility of being influenced by career prospects or duty to superiors or others. They are free to decide whether the case should or should not proceed and the manner in which the case is presented.

If you are involved in litigation in British courts, you will have plenty of time to consider these problems as you wait for your case to be heard.

While you wait, you can give a helping hand to a plaintiff in a wheelchair being carried up countless stairs to the court where he or she is hoping to recover damages, or you can help to entertain some young children who have nowhere to go other than the corridor outside the courtroom. However, you will always remember the tangle of excitement when, having waited all day pacing up and down, the gentleman from the listing office arrives and you crowd around to hear the latest news — "We may have a judge free by mid-afternoon". That is a moment to treasure.

● The author is chairman of the Bar.



Law Report April 2 1991 Queen's Bench Divisional Court

University lecturer with tenure cannot be dismissed for redundancy

Regina v Visitor of the University of Hull
Before Lord Justice Taylor and Mr Justice Roullet
[Judgment March 27]

A university lecturer appointed with tenure until retirement and removal only for good cause but with terms of employment which included a provision for termination on three months' notice was only removable for good cause and could not be removed on the ground of redundancy.

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court so held when granting the applicant, Edgar Page, judicial review of the decision by the Lord President of the Privy Council acting on behalf of her Majesty the Queen as Visitor of Hull University, to reject Mr Page's petition to have set aside his dismissal on three months' notice on the ground of redundancy.

Mr Jeffrey Burke, QC and Mr Brian Langstaff for Mr Page; Mr Philip Havers for the Visitor; Mr Leola Price, QC and Mr Hubert Picarda for the university.

LORD JUSTICE TAYLOR said that Mr Page applied for a post in the department of philosophy at Hull University in 1966. Tenure was "subject to the statutes of the university... and to any conditions prescribed... at the time of the appointment". He was to vacate his office on September 30 following the date on which he attained 67 years.

The letter of appointment said, *inter alia*: "The appointment may be terminated by either party on giving three months' notice in writing..."

In 1988 the university decided to cut its staff and by a letter on June 30 informed the applicant that his employment

would be terminated on October 2 on the ground of redundancy. He was given three months' notice.

The Visitor sought the advice of Lord Jauncey of Tullichettle who, having heard evidence and considered the matter, advised that the university was entitled to so dismiss the applicant.

Two issues arose: did the Divisional Court have power to review the decision by the Visitor as to the construction of university statutes; if so, was the Visitor's construction correct?

Jurisdiction

In *Thomas v University of Bradford* (1987) 1 AC 795 the House of Lords confirmed the exclusive jurisdiction of the Visitor in relation to disputes about the interpretation and enforcement of the university's statutes.

However, Lord Griffiths, referring to the absence of any

right of appeal from the Visitor to the Court of Appeal or House of Lords, said that the writs of *mandamus* and prohibition had long been held to go to compel a Visitor to act or restrain him from acting in the exercise of his jurisdiction and later that he had "no doubt that in the light of the modern development of the administrative law, the High Court would have power... to quash a decision of the Visitor which amounted to an abuse of his powers."

In reaffirming the exclusive jurisdiction of the Visitor the House of Lords was not exempting him from judicial review. Exclusive jurisdiction meant simply that there was no concurrent jurisdiction in the court to entertain an action regarding matters within the Visitor's jurisdiction.

Initially, recourse was to be had to the Visitor and there was

no appeal but there was supervisory jurisdiction. The question was as to the scope of such judicial review.

The respondent asserted that judicial review only extended to two of the three grounds categorised by Lord Diplock in *CCSU v Minister for the Civil Service* (1985) AC 374, that is, a Visitor could be reviewed on grounds of irrationality or procedural impropriety but not on the ground of illegality: error of law.

His Lordship said that the use of the broad phrase "abuse of power" by Lord Griffiths in that case did not justify a restrictive interpretation. That was especially so since the interpretation of the university's statutes was an issue in *Thomas*. Lord Ackner's reference (at p284A) to judicial review was unqualified.

In *R v University of London*,

Ex parte Vijayaranga (1988) 1 QB 332 the applicant contended that those examining her doctorate were insufficiently qualified. Her challenge to the dismissal by the Visitor of her petition for a challenge to the Visitor's jurisdiction to the exercise of his powers.

Lord Justice Kerr in the Court of Appeal (at p334) considered that the general principles of judicial review were the same for the acts and decisions of Visitors as in other cases.

Although *obiter*, that passage afforded the present applicant strong support since Lord Justice Kerr was considering the instant situation of a challenge to the Visitor's interpretation of university statutes.

There was no binding authority on the point in issue but Professor Wade in his authoritative *Administrative Law* (6th edition (1988), p646) said: "The Visitor's jurisdiction has now been held to be subject to judicial review in the ordinary way."

In principle one would think that if there were to be any limitation on the scope of review it would be to limit interference in assessments on the facts rather than to exclude the correction of errors of law.

It had been held that the power of the court to intervene by judicial review extended even to the interpretation of the rules of a self-regulating body, provided that it performed public law duties and was required to act judicially: see *R v Panel on Takeovers and Mergers, Ex parte Datafin* (1987) 1 QB 815.

Here the statutes of the university were part of the Royal Charter founding it. The university was a publicly funded body, performing a public service. It was an important element in the state education system.

In discharge of its functions and the true construction of its statutes were clearly matters in the public domain. In his Lordship's opinion therefore judicial review was available.

Construction

Section 33 of the university statutes provided for the removal of the chancellor, pro-chancellor, treasurer and any member of the court or the

council of the university for "good cause" which was defined as meaning the conviction of any "felony or misdemeanour" judged to be of an "immoral, scandalous or disgraceful nature", physical or mental incapacity preventing the proper execution of the duties of the office or any conduct judged immoral, scandalous or disgraceful.

Section 34 provided for the removal of members of the teaching, research and administrative staff and included the vice-chancellor, all officers of the university including professors and members of the staff holding their appointments until the age of retirement.

They could be removed for good cause and paragraph (1) allowed for the consideration of their cases by a joint committee of the university council.

Paragraph (2) set out the meaning of "good cause" and paragraph (3) provided: "Subject to the terms of his appointment or administrative staff... shall be removed save upon the grounds specified in paragraph 2..."

Section 35 dealt with the retirement of the academic staff. It was common ground that there was no "good cause" for dismissing the applicant; that all full-time lecturers were appointed by letters similar to that of the applicant; that there was a distinction between appointments on a permanent basis and those for a fixed term or on probation and that the applicant was appointed until the age of retirement and was thus on a permanent non-fixed term or probationary appointment.

Accordingly, he fell within section 34(1). The issue was as to the effect of the phrase in section 34(3) "subject to the terms of his appointment".

The university contended and the Visitor had accepted that the applicant fell not only within section 34(1) but also 34(3) since he was a member of the teaching staff. Therefore the embargo on removing him from office other than for good cause was modified by the opening proviso in section 34(3).

The university was claimed to be entitled to put into his letter

of appointment a term providing for three months' notice either side. They did so as it was effective.

Counsel for the applicant argued that permanent were in a different category; those appointed for fixed terms who needed to enjoy security from dismissal for good cause.

Section 34(1) was provided secure tenure for appointed until retirement; section 34(3) that applied to staff other than those mentioned in section 33.

There was a hierarchy of grades of staff: section 33 c with the highest grade, movable only by the court "in the event of a change of grade"; section 34(1) and (2) with fixed terms or probation.

There was a hierarchy of grades of staff: section 33 c with the highest grade, movable only by the court "in the event of a change of grade"; section 34(1) and (2) with fixed terms or probation.

They thus could be removed for good cause if contracts of service so provided. That interpretation was consistent with the inclusion of three months' notice on either side in the applicant's contract. The provision allowed him to give three months' notice if dismissed him for good cause.

This notice sentence, the letter of appointment, implemented the provision in section 34(1) and (2). It did conflict with or override the

The only point of mention in appointments until the age of retirement between them, rest. It could not have intended to give secure tenure section 34(1) only to sweep away in section 34(3).

His Lordship held that interpretation was correct.

Mr Justice Roullet agreed. Solicitors: Robin Thorny & Partners; Treasury Solicitor: Priestman Green & Co, Hull.

Orders not to be made against those incapable of complying

Wooley v Wooley
Le re S (a Minor)

Before Lord Justice Glidewell, Lord Justice Ralph Gibson and Lord Justice Butler-Sloss
[Judgment March 27]

A non-molestation injunction should not be granted against a person who was incapable within the McNaghten Rules of understanding that what he was doing was wrong because he would not be capable of complying with it.

A non-molestation injunction ought not to be granted against a minor where it was unlikely to be effectively enforced.

The Court of Appeal so held in a reserved judgment when (1) allowing the appeal of the Official Solicitor against the decision of Judge Quentin Edwards, QC, on November 15, 1990 to continue the non-molestation order made by Judge Dobry, QC, on October 19, 1990 on an application by Mrs Wooley to restrain Mr Wooley, a patient detained under section 3 of the Mental Health Act 1983, and (2) dismissing the appeal of the sister of a minor, S, from the refusal by Judge Tibber in Edmonstone County Court on August 24, 1990 of a non-molestation order in the light of the minor's age of 15.

Mr James Munby, QC and Mr Edward Fitzgerald for Mr Wooley and S; Mr Michael Horowitz, QC and Miss Catryn McCann for the sister; Mr Andrew Collins, QC and Mr Stephen Bellamy for Mrs Wooley.

LORD JUSTICE BUTLER-SLOSS said that there were

grounds in both cases upon which a non-molestation order might properly have been made if the defendants were not under a disability.

It would be rare, where the court had to balance the protection of the applicant against the disability of the respondent, to grant even an interlocutory injunction against a respondent whose mental incapacity was such that he was known not to be able to understand the order applied for.

That was particularly important since a penal notice would be attached and he would be served personally with an order warning him of the penalty of imprisonment for contempt of court, a penalty which would not be likely to be enforced if he was incapable of understanding the order breached.

The issue in the second case was not whether the minor understood the order, but whether there were effective means of enforcement of that order and, if not, whether an injunction should have been granted.

There were three ways in which an order of a superior court could be enforced: by committing to prison for a period not exceeding two years, but it was not in dispute that there was no jurisdiction to commit a 15 year old to prison, by sequestration of property, which would be an unrealistic procedure for this minor, or by a fine.

It was possible, and indeed probable, that in certain cases a fine for disobedience to a court order by a minor could have a salutary effect and that even a small fine would bite if the income of the minor was small.

However, there had to be income.

Where there was the past history of a minor that he might obey an order, any order made against a boy or school leaving age, with evidence to show that he was earning any money would be ineffective and a waste of time. The judge had been right in exercising his discretion and the use of common sense.

In the vast majority of cases where the minor was still school age, or unemancipated, recourse to the civil courts was not the appropriate procedure.

Barristers and solicitors acted by relatives of violent unmanageable teenagers or to think very carefully before advising the institution of proceedings to regulate unacceptable behaviour.

In the last year the court has been told that there were ten such family applications to the county court involving official solicitors as guardians of the minor.

The court was concerned about the use of public money particularly the use of legal aid to fund applications which they were similar to the private law proceedings in the county court. It was the exceptional case where applications should be encouraged and other means sought within the sphere of public rather than private law.

Lord Justice Glidewell, Lord Justice Ralph Gibson.

Solicitors: Official Solicitor, D. Spicer & Co, Lower Edgway, Brixton & Partners, Pinner.

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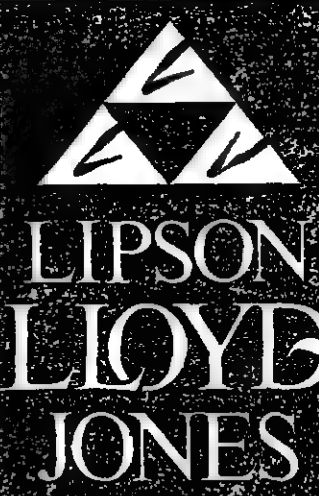
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Techno team engage all systems

Solicitors now find they need information technology. However, as Edward Fennell found, the right advice is equally important

Law firms are still having problems with information technology. A northern solicitor confessed he had to dump a system, bought just a couple of years ago, because it could not do what he required. He had been badly advised by consultants. At a time when all firms are trying to cut costs, solicitors cannot afford to make mistakes. Services such as document collection are a serious proposition only if automated. Others, such as case management, litigation support and personal injury, can benefit enormously from a finely tuned IT system. Meanwhile, clients often want compatibility with their own software. Therefore, IT investment is no longer just about word processing, billing and desktop publishing. It now goes to the heart of the legal service. So whatever the quality of your expertise, you could be let down if you make a mistake in choice of hardware and software. As a result, computer-literate solicitors are having to turn to consultants for help. However, as a northern lawyer found, there are plenty of mediocre consultants. Large firms, therefore, are building up their own internal consultancy services. Linklaters & Paines, for example, has a team of senior computer professionals to manage its system. Dr Andrew Taylor, of Lancaster University, who is an "internal consultant" to

Linklaters, says the firm is committed to long-term IT planning and strategy. However, this can excite tantrums from those who want a "quick fix" solution. "Lawyers sometimes come to me asking for a computer solution to their immediate needs," Dr Taylor says. "Often in those cases we cannot respond at once because what they want is not consistent with the long-term strategy. So we have to ask them to be patient, and some of them find that frustrating." Dr Taylor's strength at Linklaters is that he is not on the full-time staff and can distance himself from the day-to-day stresses of running the firm. Although law firms in general are realising increasingly that good-quality consultancy is essential for effective investment in IT. Consequently, the Post Marwick McIntosh solicitors' consulting unit now earns 55 per cent of its income from IT consulting work. Neil Cameron, who works in the unit, points out that IT consulting often leads to strategic consulting. "Before providing an IT solution we need to understand what the business plan is," he explains. "IT serves the business strategy." Peat and Touche Ross are probably the leading national consultants able to provide both the business and the IT service. Gary Simon, of Touche Ross, says the recession offers firms an ideal time



An outside man on the inside: Dr Andrew Taylor. Right: members of the Touche Ross solicitors' information technology consulting team, Chris Ross (left), John Reave (front) and Gary Simon

to reflect on their IT needs. As partners are under less pressure from clients, there is an opportunity for "visioning" — deciding what their needs are likely to be during the next five years.

However, partners are still slow to consider future needs. Mr Simon says: "Because of partners' commitment to fee-earning and their reluctance to become deeply in-

volved in management there are problems persuading them to think deeply about this. But without this process we cannot do our job in analysing their IT needs."

Mr Simon can already name firms that have lost potential clients, particularly Americans, because of their inadequate IT. In a recent case a firm was forced into

bankruptcy because its litigation support unit was hopelessly outgunned by the other side's IT resources. So although the cost of large consultancy may deter small firms, making a wrong investment would be even worse. Unfortunately, IT becomes just another of those elements making it harder for smaller firms to stay in business. Invest or die seems to be the message.

INNS AND OUTS

A century of caring

THE prison medical service has been attacked in recent years both in and out of Parliament, particularly over deaths in custody. Yet there are no plans to reform the system, which denies prisoners, including those on remand, access to a doctor of their choice. A new book, *Medical Power in Prisons: The Prison Medical Service in England 1774-1989*, by Joe Sim, analyses the history of the service and the power it wields, and, in the author's words, "challenges the view that medical care for prisoners has been a journey from barbarism to enlightenment". Mr Sim has used a mass of material, including the writings of prisoners and transcripts of inquests, to show that in some ways the system has deteriorated. When considering deaths in custody 100 years ago, for example, the coroner's inquest played a far more prominent role in calling the medical service to account, and coroners' juries were able to record detailed allegations of lack of care — a power no longer available in coroners' courts, which can return only an unelaborated verdict of "lack of care".

Words of the law

WHEN the Scottish Faculty of Advocates' coffee room became the Lady Advocates' gown room, the faculty lost its main source of gossip. With members now spread far and wide, the faculty has decided to issue a newsletter, *The Advocate*. The brief is to keep faculty members up to date on issues, "particularly at this time of strain and potential change", says Alan Johnson,



Time to train

THE Home Office is clearly bracing itself for a huge training task now that the Children Act will be in force at the end of the year. Officials have ordered 1,200 packs on the act at a cost of £38,000 from the Open University for use in the training of justices' clerks. Under the act the clerks have the key role of allocating the children's cases to the right tier of court as they come in.

Don't leave it

THE Law Society is to run a campaign to encourage people to make wills. The aim is to show people they need to make a will and to point out the problems when somebody dies intestate. Only 25 per cent of adults have a will. The campaign is also aimed at encouraging people not to think of a will as a "death wish" but to see it as positive provision for family and friends. The campaign is part of a wider project to enhance the profile of solicitors involved in this work. The society wants to get rid of the image of will-making as Dickensian and will try instead to create a link in people's minds with word processors and plain English.

SCRIVENOR

Banks are warned to build in safeguards if they finance Kuwait's reconstruction

Cautionary tales from the Gulf

Frequently, the only security taken by the banks was an assignment and charge of the contract proceeds payable by the employer from time to time in accordance with the contract provisions. The banks seemed to accept that, provided the contractor met obligations under the contract, the employer's undoubted creditworthiness made further protection unnecessary. The logic of this argument was flawed for several reasons and banks should remember some of the basic misconceptions when they consider what their requirements will be when

similar situations arise in Kuwait. First, banks tended regard these financing packages as limited recourse — the completion of the contract and payment by the employer were the only certain means whereby the banks would be repaid. In most cases, this was not the original intention of the parties involved. If joint venture contractors are involved, banks should obtain comprehensive parent company guarantees. In the case of local contractors banks should ask for further security, preferably under a jurisdiction

where it can be easily enforced. Second, banks must monitor more carefully the progress of the contract they are financing. In many instances in Saudi Arabia, banks would accept a fairly cursory monthly progress report. Accordingly, they were not aware as they should have been when problems arose, and they often advanced more money to the contractor when it was in dispute with the employer about cost over-runs or change orders that went to the heart of the contract. Even more disastrously,

contractors were occasionally able to perform one contract with finance made available for an entirely separate contract, with the obvious consequences. When the results of this inadequate monitoring came to light, banks would only then react by using their own independent consultants to watch progress until the completion of the project. However, by that time, the facilities were usually in default and the banks were trying to minimise their losses. The banks should also seek further restrictions when obtaining security. An assign-

ment of the contract proceeds frequently allowed the proceeds to "wash through" the assigned account, enabling the contractor to meet its cash-flow needs without asking the banks for more money. The obvious result was that the credit balance in the account was minimal. When, therefore, problems arose and the employer stopped making payments into the account, the security the banks purportedly held was worthless until the employer again started payments to provide a greater "float" giving more protection for the banks, like parent company guarantees or "off-shore" security.

STEPHEN PARISH

The author is a partner in Norton Rose's banking and capital markets group. Norton Rose has a Bahrain office.

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US victory for man determined to do things his way

Edwards, 71, 73, 70, 74; D Weibing, 57, 74, 72, 74; D Frost (SA), 61, 72, 75; S Jones, 71, 70, 71, 75; I Belor-Tinch (Aus), 69, 68, 70, 71, 73; J Sindelar, 68, 73, 67, 77; S Clout, 71, 69, 68, 70, 72. Other scores: 235: N Feldo (GB), 72, 72, 71, 74, 291: S Babington (Sp), 72, 73, 74; G Norman (Aus), 75, 70, 70, 76.

Swiss homies

ELUCIA DAVIES IN RANCHO MIRAGE

1988. This time Alcott and Bill Kurre, her caddie, were joined

Blake, 67, 75, 75, 69; M Ozald (Japan), 73, 72, 72, 69; K Green, 68, 75, 71, 70; R Wrenn, 70, 72, 73, 71; W Ertson, 70, 72, 72, 72; J Wrenn, 70, 72, 72, 72; B Brown, 72, 73, 68, 72; W Andrade, 68, 71, 74, 73; L Roberts, 69, 73, 71, 73; P Persons, 66, 75, 71, 74; S Pate, 69, 73, 70, 74; H Irwin, 68, 74, 75, 68, 75; E Dougherty, 71, 70, 68, 78; C Perry, 68, 71, 71, 78.

1967: G Pavin, 68, 76, 71, 71; B Gerson, 70, 72, 71, 74, 72; W Gibson, 72, 70, 70, 73; R Tway, 65, 77, 72, 72; D Edwards, 71, 73, 70, 73; D Weinberg, 67, 74, 72, 74; D Frost (SA), 66, 71, 72, 75; S Jones, 71, 70, 71, 75; J Bateman-Finch (Aus), 68, 69, 71, 78; J Sindelar, 68, 75, 67, 77; B Clear, 70, 69, 69, 70, 70, 70, 74, 74, 75; S Bateman-Finch (Sp), 72, 72, 73, 74; G Norman (Aus), 75, 70, 70, 76.

showing in 17 years on the tour. His mother's death from cancer was one of the contributory factors, and she was never far from Alcon's thoughts last week.

egg rolled

The Bears were the real start of it all. The question is whether that was enough. Has the plant put down any roots in those five years? Is this liking for American football no more than dandyism, a dressing up, sport's equivalent of the lady

o a winn

Bedrick Dodge, with ten seconds left, stilled the panic and provoked unbridled joy.

The Monarchs, while delighted with their victory, realised they have room for improvement. "At times we looked like an NFL team, sometimes we looked like a high school team," Larry Keenan, the head coach, said.

That the Monarchs next meet Orono, who have also won their first two games, adds further spice. Following their 35-34 win last week, Thunder struck 58-20 over Raleigh-Durham Skyhawks on Sat-

the outcome of the latest allegations, the player who gave us the "hand of God" may need further divine intervention to regain his credibility.

Naples, the Italian champions, were without Maradona — he was serving a one-match suspension for an on-the-field misdemeanour — when they drew 1-1 with Internazionale.

Mariphus gave Inter the lead in the seventieth minute. Careca,

[illegible]

Bernabeu. Real are in danger of failing to qualify for Europe for only the second time in their history.

Barcelona shared a 1-1 draw with Atlético Madrid, their nearest challengers for a European Cup place next season. Barcelona went ahead when Resino fumbled a 57th-minute effort from Salinas and Vizcaino equalised eight minutes later, leaving Atlético four points off the pace.

FOOTBALL

7.30 unless stated

Barclays League

First division

Leeds v Sunderland (7.45)

Manchester Utd v Wimbledon (7.45)

Second division

Ipswich v Portsmouth (7.45)

Third division

Birmingham v Tranmere (7.45)

Bournemouth v Grimsby (7.45)

Sunderland v Bolton (7.45)

Sheff Wednesday v Bradford

Southend v Chester

Fourth division

Blackpool v Carlisle

Torquay v Maidstone

B and Q Scottish League

First division

Clyde v Ayr

Forfar v Falkirk

Morton v Clydebank

AN ANTONIO — Steffi Graf's decision to enter the United States hard-court championships and challenge Monica Seles head-on proved to be a wise one when the new world No. 1 was defeated 6-4, 6-3 by her predecessor on Sunday (Barry Wood writes).

It was not so much Graf's victory — her first since the Virginia Slims of New England tournament last November, — which brought a smile to her face but the manner in which it

His decision to enter the United States hard-court championship and challenge Monica Seles head-on proved to be a wise one when the new world No. 1 was defeated 6-4, 6-3 by her predecessor on Sunday (Barry Wood writes).

It was not so much Graf's victory — her first since the Virginia Slims of New England tournament last November — which brought a smile to her face but the manner in which it

"I know I've been on the right track over the past few weeks. It's just been one or two points really," Graf said. "I'm now playing a lot more forehands and I try to be aggressive and go for the lines all the time. I'm now playing a little bit more with my hand."

"It was very disappointing and frustrating because I knew I

"I'm not feeling you can have," she said. Her back-to-basics style, a reward it has reaped, means she may eventually be in a position to regain her Nobel. But she will have to be patient.

"Steffi definitely has a lot to say to go before she can win again because of the points she lost at the beginning of the year," Seles said. "Up next, the closest contenders will have to watch for an Sabatini."

qualified for the Davis Cup world group semi-finals with respective wins over Czechoslovakia and Argentina. Germany eased past Argentina, with Eric Jelen and Michael Stich beating Javier Frana and Christian Miniussi in five sets – securing a match-winning 3-1 lead – before Boris Beck and Stich made it 5-0. Yugoslavia defeated the Czechs 4-1 but were flattered in their margin of victory.

United States brushed past Mexico 3-2. Brad Gilbert gave the defending champions a decisive 3-1 lead with a win over Luis Herrera.

هكذا من الاصل

- RACING 28, 29
● RUGBY UNION 30
● FOOTBALL 32

Ardiles forced to lower his sights

By a SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Newcastle United 0
Bristol Rovers 2

OSVALDO Ardiles demonstrated a healthy realism yesterday after his first match in charge at Newcastle United.

Ardiles had suggested after taking his £120,000-a-year job that he could still lead his new club into the second division promotion play-offs. But 90 minutes against unfashionable Bristol Rovers was sufficient to convince him of what most Newcastle supporters have already accepted.

The team Ardiles has inherited from Jim Smith is simply not good enough to reach the first division and they underlined that with yesterday's disappointing

performance.

Ardiles said: "There were three or four good points, but overall I now know we need to work very, very hard."

"The play-offs are not a viable proposition because of our League position and what I learned today."

Ardiles was impressed by Newcastle's goalkeeper, Burridge, who saved a first-half penalty, the mid-field player, Peacock, and Watson, who celebrated his seventeenth birthday yesterday.

But, as a team, Newcastle did not display the type of skills and control which will be needed to adapt to the football thinking of this former Swindon Town manager.

As the Newcastle captain, Aitken, said after yesterday's game: "The next few weeks will certainly be interesting."

Ardiles agreed: "I need to sit down and talk to the players to tell

them exactly what I want. We will try to win every game between now and the end of the season, but it will also be a learning process."

"Today, I was asking them to do something they don't normally do. I wanted them to play through the midfield."

Ardiles' plans came to nothing, partly because the Newcastle players are now lacking confidence and composure following a series of poor home performances in front of a demanding and disillusioned crowd.

But Rovers, disciplined and organised under Gerry Francis, another of football's emerging young managers, also contributed to Newcastle's problems.

Francis, who has already achieved two victories against Swindon while Ardiles was in charge this season, insisted that the victory would have been even more

comfortable if Burridge had not saved a poor penalty attempt by Jones in the 31st minute.

Certainly, Newcastle had rarely threatened to break through in the first half, apart from a shot which was sent narrowly off target by Quinn after he intercepted a thoughtless back-pass from the halfway line by Reece.

The second half produced a rethink by Ardiles as Newcastle emerged with a system resembling the famous diamond formation he used at Swindon to such good effect. It did not make Newcastle sparkle.

Instead, they gave Sealy space on the edge of the area and he used it superbly to fire a low shot past Burridge after 61 minutes.

Then White climbed above Scott to head a hanging cross from Reece wide of the goalkeeper.

Ardiles said: "It was a pity we couldn't reward the crowd with a

win after they gave me such a good reception."

Aitken said: "The new manager obviously had a lot of different ideas. He made it clear he wants us to play football and entertain the crowd."

NEWCASTLE UNITED: J. Burridge, S. Watson, M. Sealy, R. Aitken, K. Scott, J. Anderson, K. Quinn, B. McGuffee, G. Peacock, M. Quinn, A. Hunt, S. Sealy, R. Aitken, K. Scott, J. Anderson, K. Quinn, B. McGuffee, G. Peacock, M. Quinn, A. Hunt.

□ Jim Smith yesterday emerged as the favourite to succeed Osvaldo Ardiles as manager of Swindon Town — a day after Ardiles had taken over at Newcastle following Smith's departure last week.

Smith, aged 50, is committed to coaching at Middlesbrough until the end of the season, but he has a house 30 miles from Swindon and said a move to Swindon would be "ideal".



Warm welcome: Ardiles acknowledges the crowd's reception.

Liverpool's title hopes crumble

By STUART JONES
FOOTBALL CORRESPONDENT

Southampton 1
Liverpool 0

LIVERPOOL'S challenge for the title, which has been fading over the last four months, may have been extinguished at The Dell yesterday afternoon. In spite of a relentless search for an equaliser which lasted for 86 minutes, they suffered their second successive defeat over the Easter weekend.

With only seven fixtures left on their programme, they remain two points behind Arsenal and the gap in goal difference has been extended to nine. During a week of much-needed rest, they will reflect on the misfortune

which kept them from regaining the lead of the first division and probably their ambitions of retaining the championship.

Their decline can be traced back to Boxing Day. In winning their last game before Christmas, coincidentally against Southampton, they had dropped only seven points in their opening 17 games. They have since dropped 23 in 14 and even their apparent resurgence under Ronnie Moran has been an illusion.

Successive victories over Manchester City, Sunderland and Derby County were achieved respectively with the help of controversial penalties, an own goal and opponents who were utterly defenceless. Their aura of

invincibility has gone, their renowned passing game is disintegrating and they are no longer accompanied by luck.

Piered three times by Rangers on Saturday, they were undone by a wicked deflection in the fourth minute. During an afternoon overflowing with openings, they might before then have been unhinged by the pace of Wallace, who scored both of Southampton's goals at Anfield last year.

Liverpool's defence, whose unease was evident even during the 7-1 win at Derby, failed to contain the second of Wallace's thrusts and Le Tissier was left free to shoot. His drive careered off the legs of Gillespie and Hooper was unable to readjust to the unforeseen change in flight.

In spite of the return of Gittens, Southampton's rearguard, statistically the worst in the first division apart from Derby, was even more uncertain. Their right flank, which was supposed to have been guarded by Horne, resembled an open door and Liverpool used it to enter at will before the interval.

Gittens, sold to Swindon Town for £400,000 four years ago and bought back for ten times that in midweek, was continually forced to leave his central role to cover a gap exposed with startling regularity. Barnes, absent with influenza on Saturday, revelled in the freedom.

He created a stream of opportunities for Beardsley, Rush and Houghton but Flowers, with a series of saves, protected Southampton's narrow advantage. He was also assisted by the inaccuracy of the opposition. Rush, for example, steered wide a cross rolled deliberately to his feet by Barnes midway through the first half.

Southampton's goalkeeper was helped, too, by his colleagues. In the psychologically significant moment seconds before half-time, Beardsley bemused Ruddock near the byline before sweeping the ball towards Rush, a few yards out. Adams was on the line to act as the last line of defence.

The current flowing towards Flowers ebbed away but not before he sprawled himself at the feet of Houghton and, after Case had misdirected the clearance, flung himself to tip away Nicol's long-range attempt. Liverpool were eventually carried away by their own increasing and uncharacteristic desperation.

In doing so, they left themselves vulnerable to the counter-attack and Southampton might in the end have increased the margin of vic-



Rising to the challenge: Redmond, of Manchester City, climbs above Pardew in his side's 3-1 defeat of Crystal Palace at Selhurst Park yesterday. Report, page 33

tory. They opened the second half with Wallace making another incisive run down the left and had Ablett not throw himself in the way of Le Tissier's volley, Liverpool's difficulties would have been more profound.

They seemed to be anyway when Gillespie fell on top of

Le Tissier in the area but no penalty was awarded. Equally curiously, Gittens was allowed to escape with no more than a booking after he had brought down Staunton in full flight within 60 seconds.

Southampton closed the extravagantly open contest by creating as many chances as

had Liverpool earlier. Hooper had to block a header from Shearer, Beardsley cleared off the line from the same player and Shearer was again involved in the rousing finale which featured two stretching saves from Liverpool's ultimately beleaguered goalkeeper.

Barnsley flail nearly stifles the high-flyer

By LOUISE TAYLOR

West Ham United 3
Barnsley 2

FOR a team which Mel Machin, its manager, has described as three seasons away from the first division, Barnsley proved remarkably precocious at Upton Park yesterday.

Despite losing, after being 2-0 up at half-time, the South Yorkshire side has games in hand and could yet participate in the promotion play-offs. West Ham United stay joint top with Oldham Athletic, and are almost assured of automatic promotion, but they will not banish the memories of this season's brushes with Barnsley in a hurry.

Back in December, their 20-match unbeaten run ended in a 1-0 defeat at Oakwell and, throughout yesterday's first half, West Ham were again outplayed at their own game by a Barnsley side more pleasing on the eye than many in the division.

Building progressively out of defence, in which Carl Tyler and Gary Fleming shone, Barnsley spread some crisp passes across the full width of the pitch, pulling West Ham's rear guard all over the place.

Steve Agnew overshadowed Ian Bishop in midfield and the former prompted a stream of Barnsley corners. Their second goal, after 31 minutes, originated from such a set piece. Agnew's inswinging flicked on by Tyler for the impressive O'Connell to head home.

If that goal bore the hallmarks of hours well spent at the training ground, the first, in the thirteenth minute, was a gift from West Ham's goalkeeper, Miklosko, who erred in starting fashion when

Saville's speculative 3 shot inexplicably dropped out of his hands and into the net.

The Czechoslovakian's save from a splendidly timed interval, and ten minutes into the second half, West reduced the deficit. Keen, a replacement, Houghton, waltzed past deacon, the home side made little progress do right, but they used the

Top of second div

	P	W	D	L	F	A
Oldham	37	21	10	6	70	34
West Ham	37	20	13	4	51	24
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Sheff Wed	36	17	14	5	54	34
Sheff Wed	36	17	14	5	54	34

through to maximum McAviney lashing the shuttle's flick into the net. Now it was Barnsley to absorb pressure as had Baker to thank for one-handed save from not to mention Fle clearance off the line.

Such was the ferocity West Ham's attacking equaliser was inevitable arrived six minutes from when Dowie rose major to head past Baker Allen's centre.

Barnsley's undoing from another aerial assault the 88th minute when ball lofted into his arms. Keen exposed Baker's height and bulk, with Barnsley goalkeeper best Forster's header.

WEST HAM UNITED: L. Miklosko, G. Parker, A. Gale, C. Forster, C. Tyler, M. Machin, S. Agnew, S. Simpson, M. O'Connell, A. Ramsay, A. De Souza, R. Aitken, K. Scott, J. Anderson, K. Quinn, B. McGuffee, G. Peacock, M. Quinn, A. Hunt.

Oldham setting pace

OLDHAM Athletic, the leaders of the second division, consolidated their position with a 2-1 win at Plymouth Argyle, with Ritchie scoring one goal, his fifteenth of the season, and making the other.

Ritchie struck with a brilliant half-volley from a tight angle before turning provider in the second half with a precise, low cross which Adams drove home. Fiore pulled a goal back for Plymouth.

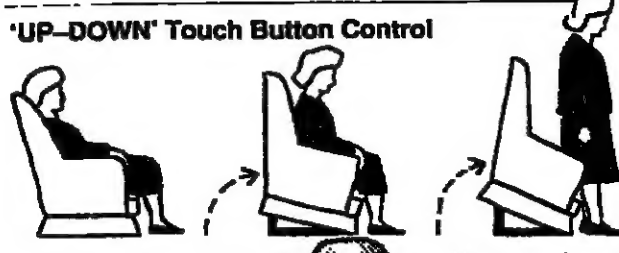
Sheff Wednesday, in third place, went down to their second defeat in three days,

beaten 2-0 at home by United. Sheridan missed penalty for Wednesday. Durnin put Oxford in lead. Simpson got Oxford second a minute from time.

Bobby Gould had his success in eight games at Bromwich Albion with a 2-1 win over Sw Town, bolstering the against a drop to the division for the first time. Hull City drew 2-2 at Charlton Athletic, all goals coming in the last minutes.

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Lacklustre Widnes advance in championship stakes

By KEITH MACKLIN

St Helens 12
Widnes 20

GIVEN the option, Widnes would much have preferred to have gone to Wembley for the Rugby League Challenge Cup final. However, they have the consolation of the championship to strive for, and St Helens this time did them a favour by turning out a team showing eight changes from the semi-final squad, and by failing to reproduce any of the tigerish commitment shown at Central Park on Saturday, when they won 19-2.

Widnes themselves seemed tired and jaded, and at times their performance was as indifferent as that which disappointed their followers two days earlier. However, they did enough to win in an extremely scrappy encounter. Widnes led 8-6 at half-time.

Two of their young men, Wynne, the full back, and McCurrie, the loose forward, combined for McCurrie to touch down near the posts and Davies landed two goals. For St Helens, Bishop borrowed through to score an untidy try and kicked a penalty.

The second half was equally mistake-ridden and disappointing. St Helens had a long spell on attack, but sluggishness and handling errors preventing them crossing the Widnes line. When Widnes finally broke away, they showed a flash of their real form and brisk handling enabled Hulme to dive under the posts, Davies adding the simple goal.

However, St Helens came back to score another scrappy try which was fiercely contested by the Widnes defenders. The referee awarded St Helens a couple of penalties close to the line, and while the

Widnes players were arguing, Cooper played the ball to himself and dived over. Bishop added the goal and the difference was two points.

This was stretched to four when Groves had to dive on a loose ball in an offside position after Evans had lost possession; Davies had a simple kick at goal.

St Helens continued to struggle to glean something, but again their handling and commitment fell short. Widnes finally made it safe with a try by Wynne, but they will have to lift both their temperament and pace to stay on top of the table.

SCORERS: St Helens: Try: Bishop; Cooper; Goals: Bishop (2). Widnes: Try: McCurrie; Goals: Wynne, Groves (2). ST HELENS: D. Wynne, D. Long, A. Hunt, M. Bishop, J. Gable, P. Vickers, P. Bishop, J. Hall, P. Groves, S. Evans, P. Forster, R. Haggerty, S. Cooper. WIDNES: J. Gable, J. Groves, J. Davies, A. Cooper, D. Wright, M. O'Brien, J. Davies, D. Hulme, S. Davidson, S. Rolton, S. McCurrie. Referee: D. Aquilino (York).

Havant's hopes of winning cup are dashed by Dutch

From SYDNEY FRISKIN
IN TERRASSA, SPAIN

Havant 1
SV Kampong 2

HAVANT's hopes of securing the European Cup-Winners' Cup disappeared here yesterday as they vainly sought to recover lost ground against the Dutch hockey club, SV Kampong, in the final.

Having failed to seize early chances, Havant were caught off guard at the back as the Dutch struck two telling blows, leaving the English cup holders with too steep a hill to climb.

It was a disappointing end for Havant, who were hoping to emulate the achievement of Hounslow, winners of the trophy at Frankfurt last year when they beat Amsterdam in the final.

Van't Heck, celebrating his 33rd birthday, set up the chance for Kampong's first

goal and earned the short corner which led to the second.

Exchanges were even in the first half. However, in the eighteenth minute, Hill squandered a chance of putting Havant ahead by scooping over the top from a short corner. There was an even better opportunity in the 28th minute, when Williams came in strongly along the line and back-passed to Lawson, whose shot was saved.

A few seconds before half-time, Van't Heck gained possession near the circle and sent Jack Brinkman on his way to score with a strong, angular shot.

Kampong increased their advantage in the 57th minute when Richard Brinkman converted a short corner while Garcia was under suspension for a questionable tackle.

But Havant's efforts never

flagged. With three minutes to go, Williams scored in from their sixth shot.

A couple of minutes later, free hit by Faulkner five inches off an equaliser then time ran out on H. who were unable to hit short corner.

HAVANT: S. Rowlands, D. Paul, Roberts, R. Hill, P. Hill, S. Lee, Williams, C. Cooper, S. Avery, SV KAMPOG: R. Major, R. O'Neil, Rick, J. Piers, L. Thys, S. de Bruijn, R. Van Oij, G. Carls, H. van Oij.

Umpires: P. Van Baren (Bel), O'Connor (Eng).

□ The Irish club, A from Dublin, did well to fifth after a 5-0 win over France. The Irish lost one match in the tour to Dundee Wanderers five last.

RESULTS: 7th place: AS Roma S. Wanderers 1, 5th place: Australia 1, 3rd place: Spain 1, 1st place: Netherlands 1, 2nd place: Netherlands 2, 3rd place: Netherlands 3, 4th place: Netherlands 4, 5th place: Netherlands 5, 6th place: Netherlands 6, 7th place: Netherlands 7, 8th place: Netherlands 8, 9th place: Netherlands 9, 10th place: Netherlands 10, 11th place: Netherlands 11, 12th place: Netherlands 12, 13th place: Netherlands 13, 14th place: Netherlands 14, 15th place: Netherlands 15, 16th place: Netherlands 16, 17th place: Netherlands 17, 18th place: Netherlands 18, 19th place: Netherlands 19, 20th place: Netherlands 20, 21st place: Netherlands 21, 22nd place: Netherlands 22, 23rd place: Netherlands 23, 24th place: Netherlands 24, 25th place: Netherlands 25, 26th place: Netherlands 26, 27th place: Netherlands 27, 28th place: Netherlands 28, 29th place: Netherlands 29, 30th place: Netherlands 30, 31st place: Netherlands 31, 32nd place: Netherlands 32, 33rd place: Netherlands 33, 34th place: Netherlands 34, 35th 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